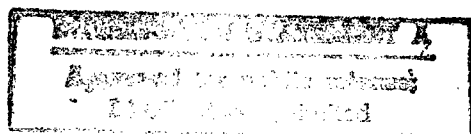


249087

JPRS-SEA-85-089

5 June 1985

Southeast Asia Report



19980828 094

DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 4

FBIS

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

REPRODUCED BY
NATIONAL TECHNICAL
INFORMATION SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22161

5
116
A06

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

5 June 1985

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

CONTENTS

BURMA

Rangoon Paper Reports Burma-Pakistan Communique (THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, 7 May 85)	1
Rangoon Papers Hail U Ne Win's Visit to China (Various sources, 6, 9 May 85)	4
Editorial on Party's 'Man Matters Most' Slogan (BOTATAUNG, 5 May 85)	6
BOTATAUNG Article on Plight of Karen Rebel Group (Saw Ohn Pe, Alias Ktaw Ko Koe; BOTATAUNG, 5 May 85)	8
Insurgents Surrender to Military 8-12 April (Rangoon Domestic Service, 11 May 85)	10
Insurgents From Various Groups Surrender (Rangoon Domestic Service, 13 May 85)	11
Insurgents Surrender to Military 26-30 April (Rangoon Domestic Service, 14 May 85)	12
Briefs New FRG Ambassador	13

INDONESIA

Former Industries Minister Sentenced for Jakarta Bombings (AFP, 15 May 85)	14
Dailies Discuss Significance of Dascalescu Visit (Jakarta Domestic Service, 15 May 85)	15
Mochtar on His Latin American Tour (Jakarta Domestic Service, 17 May 85)	16

Japanese UNSC Seat Bid 'Difficult Request' (Editorial; MERDEKA, 8 May 85)	17
--	----

Briefs

Air Force Command Deactivated	19
Air Operations Commands Inaugurated	19
Naval Patrol With Philippines	19
Private Television Ruled Out	19

LAOS

Paper Denounces U.S. Trade Embargo on Nicaragua (KPL, 6 May 85)	20
PASASON Commemorates Ho Chi Minh's Birthday (KPL, 18 May 85)	21
Vientiane Meeting Marks 1975 Victory in Vietnam (VNA, 30 Apr 85)	23
Souphanouvong-Led Delegation Returns From USSR (KPL, 15 May 85)	24
Phoumi Vongvichit Closes Education Conference (KPL, 17 May 85)	25
Party Paper Voices Support to Soviet Appeal (KPL, 16 May 85)	26
CSSR Medals Presented to Leaders, Cadres (KPL, 13 May 85)	27
PASASON Hails Czechoslovak Liberation Day (KPL, 9 May 85)	28
Paper Marks Anniversary of 1945 Victory (KPL, 9 May 85)	30
Vientiane Rally Marks Czechoslovak National Day (KPL, 9 May 85)	32
Biographic Information Reports (various sources, various dates)	33
Briefs	
Phoumi Vongvichit Attends Exhibit	36
Finance Delegation Departs for PRK	36
Hungarian Propaganda Delegation Departs	36
Cuban Cooperation Delegation Arrives	36
Aid From GDR	37
Cuba Aids Dairy Farm	37

Delegation Returns From Moscow	37
New Bridge Under Construction	37
Khammouane Road Repair	37
Party Delegation to GDR	37
Aid From GDR Youth	38
Films Week Held	38
USSR Trade Union Delegation	38
Soviet Amity Group Departs	38
School Delegation to Moscow	38
Czechoslovak Experts	39
Lao, Soviet Book Exhibition	39
Leaders Attend Soviet Envoy's Reception	39
Leaders Attend CSSR Reception	39
Health Delegation to Geneva	40
Cooperation With Hanoi	40
Friendship Delegation Returns	40
Delegation Returns From India	40
Swedish Organization's Aid	40

MALAYSIA

Radio Comments on Mahathir's Thailand Visit (Kuala Lumpur International Service, 16 May 85)	41
Mahathir Returns After Discussions in Thailand (Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service, 17 May 85)	43
Commentary Hails PNG's Participation in ASEAN (Kuala Lumpur International Service, 14 May 85)	44
Minister on Appeals to Brazil to Control Tin (Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service, 16 May 85)	46
Mahathir on UMNO Unity, Integrity of Members (Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service, 19 May 85)	47
Briefs	
Ambassador to Netherlands	48
Ritahuddeen Urges Islamic Conference Cooperation	48

NEW CALEDONIA

Independence Leader Takes Stock of Situation (Federic Filloux; LE MONDE, 14-15 Apr 85)	49
---	----

PHILIPPINES

Catholic Clergy Organization Opposes U.S. Military Aid (ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA, 5 May 85)	51
Perez Says Marcos Does Not Need Fresh Mandate (Maharlika Broadcasting Service, 16 May 85)	53

Paper Notes Only Marcos Can Institute AFP Reforms (Editorial; ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA, 8 May 85)	54
Ramos Says Lawyers Arrested for Violating Security (BULLETIN TODAY, 17 May 85)	56
Constabulary Unit Kills 27, Wounds 15 in Clash With NPA (Haralika Broadcasting System, 16 May 85)	57
DAILY EXPRESS Rounds Up Clashes With NPA (PHILIPPINE DAILY EXPRESS, 10 May 85)	58
Armed Forces Civil Relations Report on Insurgency (PHILIPPINES SUNDAY EXPRESS, 12 May 85; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 13 May 85)	60
Insurgency in the Philippines, Part I	60
Report on Insurgency, Part II	63
Paper Says Davao Area Testing Ground for Guerrilla Warfare (Editorial; THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR, 27 Apr 85)	66
Davao Paper Gives Background on Economic Support Fund (SAN PEDRO EXPRESS, 22 Apr 85)	67
Opposition Paper Reports Overpricing of Rice (ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA, 9 May 85)	69
Briefs	
Commission on Elections Officials Retire	70
Armed Forces Reservists Deferred	70
Decreases in Consumer Prices	70
SINGAPORE	
Briefs	
Government Warns Against Arms Smuggling	71
Arms Smuggling to Madras	71
THAILAND	
Daily on Stand on U.S. Embargo Against Nicaragua (THE NATION REVIEW, 9 May 85)	72
Officer Views SRV Incursions, Cambodian Issue (THE NATION REVIEW, 5 May 85)	73
Foreign Minister Departs for Italy, Hungary, U.S. (Bangkok Domestic Service, 13 May 85)	74

Official Discusses Influx of Vietnamese Refugees (THE NATION REVIEW, 5 May 85)	76
Daily Hopes 'Coup Syndrome' Will End Permanently (Editorial; THE NATION REVIEW, 7 May 85)	77
Nine Arrested in Raid on Communist Camp (THE NATION REVIEW, 13 May 85)	79
Prem Confirms Report on Navy Ships' Smuggling (BANGKOK WORLD, 8 May 85)	80
3 Killed in Buriram Actions Against Vietnamese (BANGKOK WORLD, 11 May 85)	82
Pilgrims to Saudi Arabia 'Duped' by Separatists (BANGKOK POST, 6 May 85)	83
Athit Guarantees Safety of Chit Fund Dealers (BANGKOK POST, 10 May 85)	84
VOFA Feature on Relations With Romania (Voice of Free Asia, 7 May 85)	85
Briefs	
PRC Science Exchange Program Agreement	87
VOFA Reviews PRC Officials Talks	87
Aid Agreement With Japan	87

CAMBODIA

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

Briefs	
GDR Medical Aid	88
Austrian Communist Party Delegation	88
Phnom Penh-HCMC Agreement	88
Directive on Ho Birthday	88
Lao Trade Unionists Depart	89
Lao Finance Ministry Delegation	89
Education Ministry Meeting	89

VIETNAM

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

'Voice of Vietnam' Launches Quiz for Listeners (VNA, 14 May 85)	90
--	----

Briefs	
U.S. Support for Israel Condemned	92
PARTY ACTIVITIES & GOVERNMENT	
Article Commemorates Ho Chi Minh's Birthday (VNA, 14 May 85)	93
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE	
Life in Reeducation Camps Described (Tran Tri Vu; LIBERATION, 30 Apr 85)	96
POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE	
Life in Ho Chi Minh City Described (LIBERATION, 30 Apr 85)	101

BURMA

RANGOON PAPER REPORTS BURMA-PAKISTAN COMMUNIQUE

BK141419 Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 7 May 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] Rangoon, 6 May--The following is the Joint Communique issued on the occasion of the visit of His Excellency General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma:

1. At the invitation of His Excellency U San Yu, president of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma and chairman of the Council of State, His Excellency General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, accompanied by Begun Ziaul Haq, paid a state visit to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma from 4 to 6 May 1985.
2. His Excellency General Mohammad Ziaul Haq was accompanied by His Excellency Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, minister for foreign affairs; His Excellency Mr Salim Saifullah Khan, minister for commerce and petroleum; His Excellency Mr Hameed D. Habib, chairman of Export Promotion Bureau; His Excellency Dr Ma Kazi, adviser to the president on science and technology; Senator Lt-General (Retd) Saeed Qadir; His Excellency Mr Afzal Mahmood, Pakistan ambassador to Burma and other high ranking officials of the government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.
3. President Ziaul Haq and members of his delegation were accorded a warm and cordial welcome by the government and people of Burma reflecting the close ties of history and culture between the peoples of the two countries and the friendship and cooperation that have always characterized relations between them.
4. While in Burma, the President of Pakistan and party visited the places of historical and cultural interest.
5. President U San Yu and President Ziaul Haq held friendly talks during which they exchanged views on bilateral relations and on regional and international issues of common interest. The discussions were marked by mutual cordiality and understanding and reflected similarity of views on a broad range of subjects.
6. In these talks, the President of Burma was assisted by His Excellency U Aye Ko, secretary of the Council of State; His Excellency U Maung Maung Kha,

prime minister; His Excellency U Chit Hlaing, minister for foreign affairs; His Excellency U Tint Swe, minister for industry; His Excellency U Kin Maung Gyi, minister for trade; His Excellency U Than Tun, Burmese ambassador designate to Pakistan; Colonel Aung Myint Baw, director-general of the president's office and U Thin Han and U Aung Thant, directors-general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

7. The President of Pakistan was assisted by His Excellency Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, minister for foreign affairs; His Excellency Mr Salim Saifullah Khan, minister for commerce and petroleum; His Excellency Mr Hameed D. Habib, chairman of Export Promotion Bureau; His Excellency Dr Ma Kazi, adviser to the president on science and technology; Senator Lt-General (Retd) Saeed Qadir; H. E. Mr Masood Nabi Nur, secretary, Ministry of Culture; His Excellency Mr Abdul Sattar, additional secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and His Excellency Mr Afzal Mahmood, Pakistan ambassador to Burma.

8. The two presidents expressed their gratification at the existence of friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, free of any differences or frictions. Both sides shared a desire to expand mutually beneficial exchanges in the economic, trade, industrial and cultural fields.

9. The President of Burma apprised the President of Pakistan of the endeavours of the Government of Burma for the consolidation of its independence and sovereignty and for the realization of rapid economic and social development. The President of Pakistan expressed his admiration for the dedication of the leadership of Burma and the industry of its people and extended the best wishes of the government and people of Pakistan for the progress and prosperity of the people of Burma.

10. The two leaders reviewed the international economic situation and expressed their full support for the establishment of a new international economic order based on justice and equity for all countries. In this respect, they reiterated their determination to continue to strengthen their cooperation in the international forums to achieve this objective.

11. In their review of the current world political situation, the two leaders expressed grave concern over the deterioration of the international situation reflected in the increasing tendency on the part of some states to resort to the policy of intervention and use of force in the conduct of international relations.

12. The two leaders reiterated the firm adherence of their countries to the United Nations Charter and underscored the need to strictly observe the principles of sovereign equality, non-aggression, non-use of force, non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs.

13. President Ziaul Haq explained to President W San Yu the efforts of the Government of Pakistan towards settlement of the Afghanistan problem. The two presidents reaffirmed the support of their countries for a just and durable settlement of the problem based on the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. In this context they agreed that the United Nations Secretary General should be given every encouragement and support.

14. The presidents agreed that a permanent political solution of the Kampuchean problem required the withdrawal of foreign forces, respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kampuchea and the right of its people to freely determine their own destiny without any external interference or pressure.

15. The presidents reiterated their view that a just and durable settlement of the Middle East problem was essential for the peace and stability of this important region and for the world community. They called for the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations by all the concerned parties.

16. The presidents expressed deep concern over the recent escalation of the Iran-Iraq conflict and the attacks on civilian populations. They called for an end to the war on the basis of a just and equitable solution.

17. The presidents condemned the continued repression by the racist Pretoria regime against the African people and called for an end to its policies of apartheid and racial discrimination. They deplored the refusal of Pretoria regime to implement the United Nations Plan for the independence of United Namibia as envisaged in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

18. The two presidents expressed their grave concern over the continued escalation of the arms race and the threat it poses to international peace and security and to the survival of humanity. They called for earnest efforts for arms control and for a halt to all nuclear tests and cessation of production of nuclear weapons.

19. The President of Pakistan explained the progress made towards the establishment of regional cooperation in South Asia on the basis of mutual respect for one another's independence, integrity, sovereign equality and mutual benefit. The President of Burma extended his best wishes for the success of this endeavour in the interest of consolidation of peace and stability in the region, its rapid economic development and the welfare of its people.

20. The President of Pakistan expressed his deep gratitude to the President of Burma for the cordial reception and warm hospitality extended to him, Begum Ziaul Haq and other members of his delegation during their stay in Burma.

21. The two presidents agreed to promote exchanges between the two countries in order to further develop their friendly and cooperative relations. They decided that trade delegations would be exchanged in the near future with a mandate to consider proposals for the expansion of commerce between the two countries.

22. President Ziaul Haq extended an invitation to President U San Yu to pay a visit to Pakistan. The invitation was accepted with great pleasure.

[Dated] Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rangoon, 5 May 1985

CSO: 4200/955

BURMA

RANGOON PAPERS HAIL U NE WIN'S VISIT TO CHINA

BK141217 [Editorial Report] Three Rangoon newspapers carry editorial on the recent visit to China by U Ne Win, chairman of the Burma Socialist Program Party. All the papers--LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese on 6 May 1985, THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English on 6 May 1985, and BOTATAUNG in Burmese on 9 May 1985--note that the visit was made "at the invitation of Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the CPC Central Advisory Commission and the PRC's Central Military Commission" and focus only on the speeches delivered by U Ne Win and Deng Xiaoping at a banquet given by the Chinese leader in Beijing on 4 May.

The 400-word LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN page 4 editorial entitled, "The Good-Will Visit by the Party Chairman," notes U Ne Win as saying "the relations between our two countries are very smooth and profound because they are founded on the basis of friendship, closeness, and love for each other. At times, due to circumstances when there were unavoidable issues between the two countries, the smooth and profound relationship we had established greatly contributed to the resolution of these issues in the talks held between the leaders." The paper notes the traditional friendship between the two countries and frequent exchange of visits by leaders, and says "by preserving and nurturing for the future the good tradition of friendship that was established in the past and carried forward to the present, the friendship and closeness between Burma and China will always be strong and will develop further." It says that U Ne Win's visit to China "will open a new chapter in the history of friendship between Burma and China."

THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY 400-2ord page 4 editorial entitled, "Further Consolidating Traditional Friendship," quotes Deng Xiaoping saying "China will strive for the steady and durable developments of China-Burma friendly relations and cooperation not only in our generation but also for generations to come," and notes U Ne Win's speech, which stressed "we should, indeed we must as a matter of duty, arrange and prepare in order to ensure that our coming generations, custodians of the future, will maintain and even enhance that traditional friendship which has worked well to our mutual benefit." The paper says that U Ne Win's visit "will further consolidate friendly and close relations and cooperation between Burma and China and strengthen guarantees for their development in the future."

The 400-word BOTATAUNG page 4 editorial entitled, "The China Visit by Party Chairman U Ne Win and the Long-Lasting Burma-China Friendship," notes Deng Xiaoping praising U Ne Win as an "outstanding statesman" and a "close and respected old friend" who has contributed to the enhancement of bilateral friendship, and that "these constructive efforts shall never be forgotten by the Chinese people."

The paper also notes U Ne Win's speech noting the need to carry forward the close friendship for future generations, and says that "party Chairman U Ne Win's visit to the PRC is a historic visit that contributes to the further consolidation of the Kindred Burma-China friendship."

CSO: 4200/955

BURMA

EDITORIAL ON PARTY'S 'MAN MATTERS MOST' SLOGAN

BK140726 Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 5 May 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Guideline by Party Chairman U Ne Win, and What the Guiding Ideology of the Party Prescribes"]

[Text] Chairman U Ne Win of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] in his wise and historic speech delivered at a meeting held in the conference hall at Kaba Aye Hill on 11 May 1974 to report on the first session of the People's Assembly expounded on the party's accepted maxim that man matters most. He said: "It is necessary for the people participating in new organizations formed under the new system to carry out their tasks with correctness, honesty, and courage. It will be necessary to erase former ways of thinking.... As man matters most, no matter what great rules and laws have been drawn up, success will not be achieved if man is not good."

The BSPP, led by the party chairman, has waged a socialist social revolution and is currently constructing a socialist democratic state. Soon, elections for the Fourth People's Assembly and People's Councils at different levels will be held. Peasants, workers, and intellectuals constitute a main force for building a socialist democratic state. The party firmly believes that they include people who will serve the common interests of the people with honesty and loyalty. The socialist democratic state is to be led by workers, peasants, intellectuals, and progressive forces who emerge from the working people and who are capable of leadership. Only when leadership with the participation of the masses is formed can the socialist democratic state be successfully built.

It is man who has created, is creating and will create, systems of economic relations either for the good or for the detriment of society. It is man who will change and transform the evil environment of a bad economic system, and it is man again who will create the happy environment of a good economic system. Socialist planning is aimed at dismantling the evil social environment and condition of man and at creating a good material environment and a good social environment. Therefore, man, who is capable of work, plays a significant role. The party has been consistently striving for the unity and leadership of the people who gave precedence to the matter of man's welfare over all other things, treat others as they would like to be treated, who base their human relations on the dignity of man, whose neutral human

weaknesses of covetousness, hate and pride are mild, and who are also good-hearted.

One point that should be noted [word indistinct] evil tendency for insatiable [word indistinct]. According to the guiding ideology of the party, even in a socialist society it is possible that men, tempted by lust and greed, enraged by hate, blinded by pride and conceit, and overwhelmed by self-aggrandizement, will rear their heads as and when opportunities are favorable. We believe in the maxim that wholesome morality is possible only when the stomach is full. Just as it is true that wholesome morality is possible only on a full stomach so is it true that only when men of excellent morals are in the leadership can the program of filling stomachs--the socialist programs--be carried out.

The guiding ideology of the party prescribes: "For good works good people are needed; recruitment of good people is the key to success of the program." In sum, we believe that the party organizations at different levels and all party members as a whole are taking this as a guideline in continuing to carry out the party chairman's instruction on recruitment of good and capable people.

CSO: 4211/54

BURMA

BOTATAUNG ARTICLE ON PLIGHT OF KAREN REBEL GROUP

BK150131 Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 5 May 85 p 8

[Article by Saw Ohn Pe, Alias Ktaw Ko Koe: "Military Records of Karen National Union's Hpa Kywar, Part 1"]

[Summary] "Our Karen National Union [KNU] troops are now like fish out of water. We are spared only when we do not have to fight with the Burma Army, like the cow which is safe because of the tiger's mercy. I cannot understand why we are fighting the losing war. Under KNU Bo Mya's orders to come out and fight the army's military columns, our troops are busy going back and forth, fleeing, and hiding. The troops at the lower levels realize they do not stand a chance in foolishly confronting the army. They fight because they have no other choice. Even in this token fighting, many of my friends have perished and I wonder when it will be my turn."

The above is taken from the diary of Sub Lieutenant Hla Kywar, alias Hpa Kywar alias Maung Kywar, from the 2d KNU Central Security Unit, who was killed during a skirmish with a column from the 81st Infantry Regiment near Donthami stream on 14 February 1985.

His diary revealed that the KNU leaders were not pleased to learn of the re-opening of the Hlaingbwe-Paingkyun and Hlaingbwe-Shwegun roads by the army and the local people. The roads were formerly destroyed and blocked by the insurgents. "This was interpreted as a defeat by some KNU leaders." The news shocked and infuriated Bo Mya, who later ordered KNU troops to cut the contacts between the Burma Army and the local people by destroying and burning of villages, looting and confiscating cattle, and murdering village elders. He also instructed them to raid villages and towns, arrest party, council, and police officers and their families and to send them to the headquarters with their own supplies. "Since the Burma Army began the military offensive, we have been unable to raid towns and villages. We have been unable to fight seriously and have been engaged in evasive warfare. Bo Mya's instructions issued at this time are like sending us to our death." Hpa Kywar's diary thus reveals the military plight of the KNU and the vicious thoughts of Bo Mya.

On page 3 of his diary, Hpa Kywar wrote: "The year 1984-85 was a bad year for the KNU following the closure of the toll gates by the Burma Army. We had difficulty buying arms and ammunition. We had to call in troops from

other insurgent groups to reinforce the KNU troops and the KNU had to pay their living allowance, thus entailing further expenses. We resorted to banditry and kidnapping to solve the financial problem."

Hpa Kywar's diary records the transformation of the KNU from insurgents to bandits. It said the license to engage in banditry allowed leading KNU insurgents to enrich themselves.

It noted that the KNU Central Headquarters issued an order to destroy factories, [word indistinct], roads, and bridges, to mine trains, to raid police stations and small army units, and to raid towns and villages to loot treasures. However, under the vigilant watch of patrols in wards, villages, and roads, police patrols, militias, military columns, and camps, they could not carry out the order. The KNU continued to lose men due to casualties, capture, and arrests. "It is about time we review the situation, consider surrender, and establish a new life."

"As revealed in the diary, the KNU are indeed facing difficulties and they should surrender as Hpa Kywar suggested. It is about time they establish new life. The army and people are effectively teaching the KNU leaders to face reality. In future, there will not be one KNU left."

CSO: 4211/54

BURMA

INSURGENTS SURRENDER TO MILITARY 8-12 APRIL

BK111429 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] Insurgents from various groups have come to realize their wrongdoings have been surrendering with assorted weapons and ammunition at various military camps between 8 and 12 April.

In the Southeast Military Command, Private Thaung Kyi alias (Phadu Sogo) from the Karen insurgent group surrendered with an M-16 automatic rifle to Natkyi military camp.

In the Northern Military Command, Private Ban Twe from the Kachin insurgent group's main office surrendered to Myitkyina military camp, Lance Corporal Dagun Laywe from the 3d Battalion and Private Liang Khaung Lwan from the 255th Battalion surrendered to Waingmaw military camp, Lance Corporal Ashi Kya from the Naga insurgent group's 3d Battalion surrendered to Lahe military camp, Privates Htane Hkaw and Phaung Zi from the 1st Company of the Burma Communist Party [BCP]'s 2d Battalion surrendered with one M-21 automatic rifle and one M-22 automatic rifle to Salaw military camp.

In the Northeast Military Command, Private Aik San from the Palaung insurgent group's 121st Battalion surrendered to Kutkai military camp.

In the Eastern Military Command, (Toe Na), Aik Ee Haw, and Aik Maw, privates in charge of security at the BCP hospital in Pangsang, surrendered with one M-21 automatic rifle, one M-22 automatic rifle, and one launcher to Mong Hsat military camp. Private Aik Pan of the BCP unit in (Ho Heng) township surrendered with an M-22 automatic rifle to Pangke-tu military camp.

CSO: 4211/54

BURMA

INSURGENTS FROM VARIOUS GROUPS SURRENDER

BK131454 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Insurgents from various organizations who have come to realize their wrongdoings have been surrendering with assorted weapons and ammunition to various military commands. The following surrenders were reported between 22 and 26 April:

Southeast Military Command: Private Tin Win of the Karen insurgent group's 16th Battalion gave himself up at the Mudon military camp.

Northern Military Command: Members of the Kachin insurgent group who gave themselves up at various military camps were: Privates (Khai Lu Maing) and (Laphai Chan) of the 1st Brigade at the Myitkyina garrison; Privates (Mazun Thein) and (Laphai Tu) of the 3d Brigade to the Waingmaw and Mansi military camps; and Private (Lashi Tuv) of the 4th Battalion to the Myitkyina garrison.

Private (Phone Latt Ze Khaung) of the Burma Communist Party's 101st Military Region surrendered to the Waingmaw camp.

Northwest Military Command: Private Chit Maung of the Burma Communist Party's 202d Military Unit gave himself up together with an M-22 of the (?Mobon) military camp.

Eastern Military Command: Privates (Aik Maing) and (Sai Pan Tityu) of the Shan insurgent group's 116th Battalion surrendered to the Langhko and Mong Nai military garrisons. Private (Aik Da) of Shan insurgent Mo Hein's group gave himself up with an M-22 at the Mong Nai garrison. Corporal (Aik Kham) and Lance Corporal (Aik Kaw) of the Burma Communist Party's 4046th Battalion brought along a 60-mm mortar and an RPG launcher and surrendered to the (?Na-sang) military camp.

CSO: 4211/54

BURMA

INSURGENTS SURRENDER TO MILITARY 26-30 APRIL

BK141511 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 14 May 85

[Text] Insurgents from various organizations who have come to realize their wrongdoings have been surrendering to various military camps. The following surrenders were reported between 26 and 30 April.

Northern Military Command: Private (Aung Sint), alias (Than Hlaing), of the Kachin insurgent group's 6th Battalion gave himself up at the (?Ho-pai) military camp; Medic Ne Win, alias Win Latt of the Burma Communist Party's [BCP] 2d Brigade, surrendered at Bhamo military camp.

Northwest Military Command: Privates Ma Aye Man, Ma Kya Ohn, and Ma Thaung Sein of the Palaung insurgent group have themselves up at the Mogok garrison.

Western Military Command: Privates Tun Aung Kyaw and Maung Maung Khin of the BCP's 1st "White Elat" Battalion surrendered at the Sittwe military camp.

Eastern Military Command: Privates (Paliya) and (Sai Lin) of the Shan insurgent Mo Hein group's 116th Battalion surrendered at the Langhko camp; Privates (U Reh) and (Kale Reh) of the Karreni insurgent group turned themselves in at the Loikaw garrison; and platoon leader (San Phya) of the 3d Company of the BCP's 183d Battalion surrendered at the (La E) military camp together with an M-12 automatic rifle.

CSO: 4211/54

BURMA

BRIEFS

NEW FRG AMBASSADOR--The Government of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma have agreed to the appointment of Dr Walther Freiherr von Marschall as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, in succession to His Excellency Dr Helmut Turk. [Excerpt] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in Burmese 14 May 85 p 1 BK]

CSO: CSO: 4200/955

INDONESIA

FORMER INDUSTRIES MINISTER SENTENCED FOR JAKARTA BOMBINGS

HK150749 Hong Kong AFP in English 0736 GMT 15 May 85

[Text] Jakarta, 15 May (AFP)--Former Industries Minister Mohamad Sanusi was today sentenced to 19 years in prison on subversion charges, for involvement in bomb attacks on Chinese properties in Jakarta in October.

In its judgment, the West Jakarta District Court dismissed Sanusi's constant denials of involvement in the bombings, in which two people were killed and 16 injured.

The prosecution said he had helped plan and finance the bombings, but Sanusi, 63, who was minister of industries from 1966 to 1968 had refuted the charges throughout. He immediately gave notice of appeal.

Two of the buildings targeted by the bombers were branches of the Bank Central Asia (BCA), controlled by ethnic Chinese business tycoon Liem Sioe Liong. The third was in a small Chinese-owned retail store.

Six of the nine defendants in the case have so far been sentenced.

Rahmad Basuki, charged with playing a key role in planning and financing the explosions, was jailed for 17 years.

Eddy Ramli, who set off a blast at a BCA branch in Gajahmada, West Java, has been jailed for 16 years, and Melita Halim for 14 years, for causing a blast at a shopping mall in Jakarta's China Town.

Two others, Hasnul Arifin and Khairul Syah, received 15 and 10 year sentences for involvement in the case.

The Central Jakarta District Court is expected to rule later today on the case of Mohamad Djayadi, accused of causing a bomb blast at BCA branch in Pecenongan, Central Jakarta.

CSO: 4200/944

INDONESIA

DAILIES DISCUSS SIGNIFICANCE OF DASCALESCU VISIT

BK151649 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 15 May 85

[From the press review]

[Text] ANGKATAN BERSENJATA underlines Romanian Prime Minister Dascalescu's remarks when he held talks with Coordinating Minister for Economics, Finance, Industries, and Development Supervision Ali Wardhana that Romania wishes to purchase rubber, coffee, and tin from Indonesia while offering Romanian products, including locomotives and mining equipment. The daily believes that the efforts to further promote bilateral trade relations have not been unilateral Romanian efforts, because since (?1983), Indonesia has done its best to increase its nonoil commodity exports. The issuance of the recent presidential decree No 4/1985, aimed at making Indonesian goods more competitive abroad by eradicating illegal levy and simplifying export procedures, will definitely boost trade relations with Romania.

KOMPAS believes that the inclusion of some cabinet ministers in the Romanian delegation reflects the purpose of the visit. According to KOMPAS, Eastern European countries, including Romania, are now making efforts to upgrade economic and technological cooperation with Indonesia and a number of other Third World countries. At present, relations with socialist and communist countries still cannot be carried out smoothly by the general public, who are not accustomed to their ways of doing things. However, it is hoped this will not be an obstacle to the efforts to promote economic relations with them.

CSO: 4213/231

INDONESIA

MOCHTAR ON HIS LATIN AMERICAN TOUR

BK171639 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja says that his visit to Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador early this month shows the importance Indonesian foreign policy attaches to all parts of the world. Foreign Minister Mokhtar said this at Cengkareng airport in Jakarta tonight after concluding his visit to those Latin American countries. He said his visit, the first ever by an Indonesian foreign minister to these Latin American countries, came at an appropriate time after the recent 30th commemorative anniversary of the Asia-Africa conference. He hopes that his visit to those countries serves as an expression of the Asian-African countries' determination to resolve world problems through peaceful means.

He discussed political developments in Central America, especially in Nicaragua, saying that Indonesia supports the Contadora Group's efforts to resolve political issues in those countries through peaceful means. Concerning bilateral relations, the possibility of upgrading trade relations has been studied, and it has been found to be impractical due to the distance between the three countries,

After concluding his visit to Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador, Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja stopped over in New York and Jeddah to hold discussions with Mr Wofowitz and the Indonesian ambassadors to Africa and Middle East. He told Mr Wofowitz of the most recent developments in efforts to resolve the Cambodian issue, especially Indonesia's proposal that has been agreed upon by ASEAN and China. Indonesia's proposal is for the United States to reestablish relations with Vietnam--and this adds a new dimension to efforts to resolve the Cambodian issue. In Jeddah, he held consultations with the Indonesian ambassadors to Africa and the Middle East on Indonesia's foreign policy, ability to face international issues, especially in Africa and the Middle East.

CSO: 4213/231

INDONESIA

JAPANESE UNSC SEAT BID 'DIFFICULT REQUEST'

BK141351 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesia 8 May 85 p 5

[Editorial: "A Difficult Request"]

[Text] Japan's ruling political party, the LDP, has sent the chairman of the LDP Political Research Council, Masayuki Jujio, to meet President Suharto in Jakarta. The main purpose of his audience with the president was to ask Indonesia's support for Japan's bid to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council. In addition, Jujio held discussions with Indonesian officials on Indonesia's oil and plywood exports to Japan.

The Japanese request and its desire to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council with the veto right are indeed unexpected and reflect its consciousness that its position as a great power after becoming one of the world's economically powerful countries is incontestable. Now, it wants to consolidate this status by gaining a prestigious and respected international political position. Its determination is interesting and should be given particular attention.

President Suharto responded sympathetically to the Japanese politician because the president could understand the Japanese request. We believe that Indonesia always expresses such an attitude toward any positive requests in the international political arena. Understanding is a flexible moral reaction to friendly countries. Certainly Japan should also understand this as well.

Jujio also touched on Indonesia's oil and plywood exports to Japan in addition to the political request. The two trade issues have now become crucial for trade cooperation between the two countries. It is clear from Jujio's explanations that Japan's intention to reduce its oil imports from Indonesia will not change although it will let private companies play the role in reducing the imports. It is obvious that oil imports from the PRC would be more beneficial if Japan made a business calculation. Japan will have strategic economic interests in the PRC's present development and modernization efforts in addition to gaining financial benefits. On Indonesia's plywood exports, Jujio adhered to Japan's protectionist policy toward its plywood industry. Japan prefers importing logs to plywood to protect its industry.

We consider Jujio's mission too sudden, while we should study its objectives more deeply. Indonesia and Japan still should hold more conscientious exchanges of views on political and economic cooperation in the context of their actual interests. In this regard, the request for support for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council should be treated as a difficult political request that cannot be given a simple reply because this membership is related to a balance among superpowers, ideological interaction, global strategic issues, and concrete international responsibility. Can we easily support Japan without receiving its guarantees for the position it desires?

Japan's prosperity has now brought about certain excesses in the behavior of the Japanese people. They are now reluctant to be called Asians. Moreover, they like being considered the most Western of the West. The recent opinion poll conducted by the LOOK JAPAN magazine on Japanese school students revealed that they were less sympathetic to the Third World and more sympathetic to the West. The Japanese new generation has become relaxed, lost its Japanese spirit, and become trapped in Western behavior. Japan is de-Asianizing itself and Westernizing its consciousness and behavior. This is a problem for Third World nations.

Accordingly, we should still question the Japanese request carried by Masayuki Jujio although we should not necessarily ignore it. Representatives of the Third World, particularly Asia and Africa, have not been justly represented in the United Nations. Indeed, we should raise this issue.

Should Japan become a permanent member of the UN Security Council to represent the Third World and Asia and Africa? Shouldn't another Asian country be entrusted to do so? These questions need answers.

CSO: 4213/231

5 June 1985

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

AIR FORCE COMMAND DEACTIVATED--Air Force Chief of Staff Sukardi officially deactivated the 4th Air Force Region Command in Surabaya on 7 May 1985. The air force chief of staff said that the functions of all former air force region commands will be taken over by two air force operations commands. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 7 May 85]

AIR OPERATIONS COMMANDS INAUGURATED--Armed Forces Commander General L. B. Murdani inaugurated the 1st Air Force Operations Command and the 2nd Air Force Operations Command and installed their commanders in a ceremony at Halim Perdanakusuma Airbase, Jakarta, on 11 May 1985. The 1st Air Force Operations Command and the 2nd Air Force Operations Command have jurisdiction over western Indonesia and eastern Indonesia with their respective headquarters in Jakarta and Ujungpandand. The two new commands are to take over the functions of all former air force region commands. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 11 May 85]

NAVAL PATROL WITH PHILIPPINES--A joint patrol between the navies of Indonesia and the Philippines at the border area codenamed "Corpatphilindo VIII" from 6 May for 3 days was a success. A joint patrol was carried out in accordance with border crossing agreements between the two countries and as a realization of the border patrol. "Corpatphilindo VIII" was led by Colonel Ahmad Sidik of the Indonesian Navy, while his assistant was Lieutenant Colonel Fernandez, assistant to the operational south Philippine territorial naval command. [Excerpt] [Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 11 May 85]

PRIVATE TELEVISION RULED OUT--Information Minister Harmoko told a parliamentary hearing in Jakarta on 13 May that the government has no plan to set up a private television station. The only television station in Indonesia is state-owned. According to Harmoko, the potential problems faced by a private station include the scope of its broadcast capacity as well as its target audience. He pointed out that Indonesia, with 69,000 villages, currently has only 38,000 television sets. He added that the government is doing its best to reach broader and isolated areas through broadcasts of Radio Republik Indonesia. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 13 May 85 BK]

LAOS

PAPER DENOUNCES U.S. TRADE EMBARGO ON NICARAGUA

BK071445 Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] Vientiane, 3 May (OANA-KPL)--The Lao party paper, today, energetically denounces Reagan administration's decision to impose a total embargo on trade with Nicaragua and to ban Nicaraguan airliners' flights into the U.S. airspace and Nicaraguan ships' entry into U.S. ports.

The paper says: This is a new war escalation move taken by the U.S. against the Nicaraguan people. Since the Nicaraguan people overthrew the dictatorial Somoza regime, the U.S. has carried out dark manoeuvres against the Nicaraguan [people], such as arming and training the Contras, mining the Nicaraguan Corinto Port, refusing to comply with the ruling of the International Court in The Hague, conducting military exercises in Honduras, only five kilometres from the Nicaraguan border, walking out of the Nicaraguan-U.S. negotiations in Manzanillo, and boycotting the initiatives of the Contadora Group for a peaceful settlement of problems in Central America.

The new move taken by U.S. President Ronald Reagan has confirmed the U.S. policy of use pressure to impose its will on other nations.

While mounting political, military and economic pressure against Nicaragua, the commentary continues, Washington has also undermined the construction efforts of the Nicaraguan people and violated the security and stability of that Central American nation. Reagan seems to have taken vengeance on the Congress which had turned down his demand for an additional aid of 14 million dollars to the Contras. The paper finally stresses that the Nicaraguan people, with their heroic tradition of struggle and with strong support from progressive people all over the world, will overcome all obstacles and foil all dark schemes of the "world gendarme."

CSO: 4200/952

5 June 1985

LAOS

PASASON COMMEMORATES HO CHI MINH'S BIRTHDAY

BK181149 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Vientiane, 19 May (OANA-KPL)--Though President Ho Chi Minh is no more, his teachings and his exemplary revolutionary activities still constitute a decisive factor for success of the Vietnamese revolution and the Indochinese revolution as a whole, writes PASASON in its editorial today commemorating the 95th birthday of the great President Ho Chi Minh (19 May).

It continues: Ho Chi Minh, a young worker in his early life, moved up towards a leading position in the struggle for the liberation of Vietnam from the colonialist yoke. He devoted all his life to the revolution and gained prestige, and respect from the international communist movement and the national liberation movements all over the world.

President Ho Chi Minh's revolutionary life represents a symbol of assiduousness, resoluteness, revolutionary talent and endurance of the Vietnamese nation. The successive revolutionary victories won by the Vietnamese people under President Ho Chi Minh's leadership brought about the process of disintegration of colonialism and the prospect of failure of neo-colonialism.

That is why, his revolutionary activities are still encouraging the revolution of the international working-class and proletarian movement.

President Ho Chi Minh was the first to introduce Marxism-Leninism into this part of the world. He was a founder of the Indochinese Communist Party, the predecessor of the CPV, the LPRP and the KPRP, which are now playing a decisive leading role in Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea. He founded the first working-peasant state in this part of the world and pointed to the labouring people in this region as the path of national liberation and of building a new prosperous society.

On the special alliance of Laos and Vietnam founded by President Ho Chi Minh, the paper says: This special alliance has nowadays become more and more consolidated. And the special solidarity and relations among Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea have been constantly strengthened through decades of struggle against their common enemies for the independence, freedom and the building of socialism in their respective countries.

In the present complex situation, the alliance of the three Indochinese countries is of vital importance in the struggle to foil the policy of aggression of the Chinese hegemonists and expansionists who are colluding with the imperialist and other reactionary forces in the region, the paper stresses.

The Lao people treasure the Lao-Vietnamese solidarity like the apple of their eyes, the paper quotes party General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane as saying. This is a clear proof of the Lao people's love and respect for the great Vietnamese leader. Ho Chi Minh's revolutionary teachings and spirit still remain decisive for the implementation of the revolutionary task of the Lao people in their national defence and socialist construction, the paper concludes.

CSO; 4200/951

LAOS

VIENTIANE MEETING MARKS 1975 VICTORY IN VIETNAM

OW302010 Hanoi VNA in English 1641 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Hanoi, 30 Apr (VNA)--A 1,200-strong meeting was held in Vientiane this afternoon and to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the complete liberation of South Vietnam.

Present at the meeting were Phoun Sipaseut, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LRP) Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, and many members of the LPRP CC, the People's Supreme Council, and the Cabinet.

Ambassador Nguyen Xuan and staff members of the Vietnamese Embassy and many Vietnamese specialists in Laos also attended.

Also present were diplomatic envoys of other socialist countries, the Indian ambassador and representatives of the Palestinian Liberation Organization.

In his speech, Khambou Sounisai, member of the LRRP CC and chairman of the Administrative Committee of Vientiane City, stressed that this victory of the Vietnamese people provided a chance in one thousand years for the Lao revolution to win complete victory. The 30 April victory not only the victory of the Vietnamese people, but also of the three Indochinese nations, a victory of epochal significance contributing to the struggle of the progressive forces in the world and accelerating collapse of the neo-colonialist and imperialist system. [sentence as received]

Khambou Sounisai denounced the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists for colluding with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces in carrying out a multifaceted war of sabotage against the three Indochinese countries. He said: "In implementation of the Laos-Vietnam Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation and the statement of the summit conference of the three Indochinese foreign ministers the Indochinese peoples now more than ever before, are strengthening their solidarity and mutual assistance to defeat all schemes and acts of sabotage of the enemies in order to contribute to the struggle for peace and stability in this region of the world."

CSO: 4200/951

LAOS

SOUPHANOUVONG-LED DELEGATION RETURNS FROM USSR

BK151515 Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 15 May 85

[Text] Vientiane, 15 May (SANA-KPL)--Souphanouvong, Politbureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC, president of the republic, the People's Supreme Assembly and the Lao Front for National Construction led his delegation back home on 14 May after attending the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism held in Moscow on 9 May.

The delegation was met at Wattai airport here by Phoumi Vongvichit, Politbureau member of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and president of the Lao National Committee for Ministers and president of the Lao National Committee for the Celebration of Victory Day, Phoun Sipaseut, Politbureau member of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of foreign affairs, and other senior officials.

Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Sobchenko was also present at the airport.

CSO: 4200/951

LAOS

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT CLOSES EDUCATION CONFERENCE

BK171223 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Vientiane, 17 May (OANA-KPL)--A conference on educational development was recently closed here after 14 days of sitting.

The closing ceremony was attended by Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; Khamphet Phommavan, vice-chairman of the State Planning Committee; and other senior Lao officials, and foreign experts and representatives of international agencies concerned.

The conference, as reported by Bounthavi Insisiangmai, deputy-head of the Finance Department of the Education Ministry and chairman of the conference, worked out a programme for the improvement of education, including the compilation of textbooks and other teaching materials. The participants also discussed appropriate measures for drafting a report on educational statistical work.

In his speech, P. Vongvichit spoke of the need for the development of education. He urged the participants to apply good educational experiences in their localities with due consideration to their local characteristics and capability.

The conference, convened under the auspices of the commission for educational research and textbook compilation of the ministry, was attended by 140 educational workers from Houaphan, Xieng Khouang, Luang Prabang, Khommouane, Bolikhamsai, and Vientiane provinces. It was the second of its kind organized by the commission.

CSO: 4200/951

LAOS

PARTY PAPER VOICES SUPPORT TO SOVIET APPEAL

BK161119 Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 16 May 85

[Text] Vientiane, 16 May (OANA-KPL)--The Lao Party paper PASASON in its editorial today voices the full support of the party, the People's Supreme Assembly, the government and people of Laos to the appeal of the Soviet Union for peace and against the danger of nuclear war.

The paper says:

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism, the CPSU, the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the USSR, on 9 May issued an appeal to all peoples and governments in the world, asking them to promote the struggle for peace and against a nuclear confrontation.

It quotes the appeal as saying that being victims of World War II caused by the Hitlerite fascists and having lost more than 20 million of its citizens, the Soviet Union cherishes peace more than anyone else and is eager to prevent war before it may happen.

The paper continues: The U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces seem to disregard the bitter experiences of World War II and are preparing for a nuclear conflict by accelerating the deployment of their medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe and the "star wars" programme. By doing so, they hope to tilt the balance of forces between them and the Soviet Union in their favour.

As far as the peoples of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea are concerned, having suffered considerable losses in terms of material and human lives, they will not allow anybody to destroy peace in this region. The Lao Party, government and people consider that the USSR is working seriously for peace and mutual understanding among nations in the world. That is why we fully support the Soviet appeal, and demand that the U.S. administration immediately stop all its hostile plans and its attempt at gaining a military superiority over the USSR, and work out a plan with the USSR for the maintenance of world peace.

CSO: 4200/951

LAOS

CSSR MEDALS PRESENTED TO LEADERS, CADRES

BK131154 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Vientiane, 13 May (OANA-KPL)--On the occasion of the 40th National Day of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the Czechoslovak Communist Party conferred commemorative medals on ten Lao leaders and cadres.

The medal-presenting ceremony was conducted by Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the party CC, minister of industry, handicraft and forestry, and Dr Ladislav Kocsis, Czechoslovak ambassador to Laos.

Also present on the occasion was Sali Vongkhamsao, secretariat member of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and president of the State Planning Committee.

Speaking on behalf of the Lao party and government leaders, M. Saisompheng expressed his gratitude to the Czechoslovak party for these honours. He also wished for further development of fraternal friendship, military [as received] solidarity and close cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries.

CSO: 4200/951

LAOS

PASASON HAILS CZECHOSLOVAK LIBERATION DAY

BK091245 Vientiane KPL in English 0927 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] Vientiane, 9 May (OANA-KPL)--The Soviet Red Army's liberation of Czechoslovakia from the fascist yoke today forty years ago was another decisive factor leading to the end of World War II in Europe, especially in Czechoslovakia, editorially writes PASASON today hailing the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia.

Today--9 May--is a date of great significance for the Czechoslovak people since it is being celebrated concurrently with the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism, the paper says.

It continues: In spite of the heavy consequences caused by the Hitlerite fascists to the national socio-economic structure before the entrance of the Red Army, Czechoslovakia, a young socialist state, was steadily advanced on the way to a developed socialist society. The nationalization of factories, banks and other production means as well as the agrarian reform conducted under the guidance of the Czechoslovak communists were great achievements in the national economic development. Food production has increased multifold compared with the pre-liberation day, scientific and technical development has greatly contributed to the upgrading of industry, thus making Czechoslovakia one of the top steel producers in the world.

The daily PASASON further praised the considerable expansion of the educationals, cultural and health service in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. Education and medical care are free for all citizens. Schooling is compulsory to all children of school age. The present ratio of medical workers per population in the CCSR is 1/285. This is a result of the correct and clear-sighted leadership of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPC] led by Gustav Husak.

While engaging in its national development, the CSR--in the present international complex situation--has also actively joined in the struggle of the world people for peace and disarmament, the paper says:

It stresses: "The Lao people wholly support the foreign policy for the defence of world peace of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the other Marxist-Leninist parties of the fraternal countries with the Soviet Union as the mainstay."

The paper highlights the cooperation between Laos and Czechoslovakia as provided for by the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed by General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan of the LPRP CC and General Secretary Gustav Husak of the CPC CC in 1980, describing this as a firm base for further broadening of the friendly relations between the two countries.

CSO: 4200/952

LAOS

PAPER MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF 1945 VICTORY

BK091236 Vientiane KPL in English 0933 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] Vientiane, 9 May (OANA-KPL)--Celebrating the 40th anniversary this year of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism, the Lao people together with the peoples of the other socialist countries and progressive people in the world are paying great importance to the struggle of the world people for peace and against the danger of war, says PASASON in an article today.

Commemorating this historical event in implementation of a resolution of the UN General Assembly, the world people reaffirm that nobody can deny the historical facts and play down the role of the USSR in defeating Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism in World War II, the paper stresses.

The paper continues: The great Soviet people and their heroic army, during the great patriotic war, put out of action 507 divisions of the Nazi fascists and 100 divisions of their allies totalling 13,600,000 men, of whom 10 million were eliminated on the Eastern front. During the battle for Berlin, the Red Army captured 480,000 fascist soldiers, seized 1,500 tanks, 4,500 planes, 6,800 pieces of artillery and put out of action 70 infantry divisions and 11 cavalry divisions while the allied troops eliminated 176 divisions of the enemies.

Within six years and two days, the Red Army put an end to the war after having liberated Prague on 9 May 1945 and routed the Japanese militarist troops on the Kuriles Island on 1 September 1945, Hitlerite fascism totally destroyed, and 13 European countries totalling 113 million inhabitants were liberated. [sentence as received] This historical victory of the Soviet Union over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism inaugurated a new era for the world people, an era of freedom, security and socialism.

The paper goes on to denounce the U.S. imperialists and the Beijing hegemons and expansionists for plotting to accelerate the arms race and gain a strategic advantage over the USSR.

It praises the Soviet Union peace initiatives, especially the declaration of the general secretary of the CPSU CC, Mikhail Gorbachev, to suspend counter

measures including the installation of Soviet medium-range missiles in Eastern Europe.

Thanks to the Soviet Union's firm policy of peace, the Soviet and world people have so far enjoyed 40 years of peaceful construction, the paper stresses in conclusion.

CSO: 4200/952

LAOS

VIENTIANE RALLY MARKS CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONAL DAY

BK091224 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] Vientiane, 9 May (OANA-KPL)---A 1,000-strong mass rally was organized here yesterday by the Lao Committee for World Peace, Solidarity and Friendship with Other Nations in collaboration with the Vientiane Administrative Committee to welcome the 40th national day of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The meeting was attended by Phoun Sipaseu, Politbureau member of the LPRP CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister for foreign affairs of the LAO PDR, Khambou Sounisai, member of the party CC, mayor of Vientiane, and other senior officials.

Dr Ladislav Kocsis, Czechoslovak ambassador, and other diplomatic envoys here, were also present.

Addressing the gathering, Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani, president of the Lao Committee for World Peace, Solidarity and Friendship with Other Nations, and Dr L. Kocsis spoke the heroic struggle of the Czechoslovak people for peace and freedom. With the support of the Soviet Red Army, they fought heroically and defeated the Hitlerite fascists, stressed the speakers.

"We warmly welcome the remarkable achievements gained by the people of Czechoslovakia during the past 40 years and consider these as our own," said S. Sikhotchounlamani. He also expressed gratitude to the Czechoslovak party, government and people for their support to the Lao revolution.

Both sides highly assessed the incessant development of the fraternal relations, combative solidarity and close cooperation between Laos and Czechoslovakia.

CSO: 4200/952

LAOS

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION REPORTS

[The following information is extracted from the Vientiane press on the dates indicated in parentheses following each entry in the REMARKS column. Name spellings are as published in the sources using the BGN transliteration system. The following abbreviations for sources are used PS=PASON; VM=VIENTIANE MIA; KPL=KHAOSAN PATHET LOA; NL=NOUM LAO; HN=HENG NGAN; ML=MEGNING LAO. The following abbreviations for positions held by those listed are used: SPC=Secretary, LPRP Committee; CAC=Chairman, Administrative Committee; DPC=Deputy LPRP Committee Secretary; VCA=Vice-chairman, Administrative Committee]

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position Held, Remarks</u>
Bansa Detwongson	CAC, Xieng Khouang Province and member, provincial party committee. Accepts turn-over of SRV-built road in Khoun District (PS 2 Apr 85 p 1)
Bouaket Paninhom	Member, LPRP Committee and CAC, Bokeo Province. Presided at ceremony celebrating end to illiteracy in province (PX 27 Dec 84 pp 1, 2)
Boun-ang	SPC, Thoulakhom District, Vientiane Province. Discusses district developments (PS 10 Dec 84 p 2)
Col Bounchan	SPC, Bokeo Province. Spoke at rally on 30th anniversary of LPRP (PS 29 Mar 85 p 1)
Boungnang Sakounsouk	Vice Chairman, National Commission on Social Welfare and Veterans Affairs. Attended meeting summing up achievements of Commission (KPL 1 Dec 84 pp A3, 4)
Bounlom Keochomsi	SPC, Phon Hong District, Vientiane Province. Speaks on LPRP anniversary (PS 7 Mar 85 p 2)
Bounma Mithong	Vice Minister of Interior. Attended meeting on population census (PS 21 Feb 85 p 1)
Bounthon Losaipangna	SPC, CAC Bolkhamsai Province. Receives visit of SRV's Nghe Tinh Province delegation (KPL 20 Mar 85 p A5)

Channam Chittavong	SPC, Vang Vieng District, Vientiane Province. Elected as SPC at 1st District Party Congress (VM 4 Apr 85 p 1)
Chom Chanthanala	SPC, Keo-Oudom District, Vientiane Province. Elected SPC at congress (VM 26 Mar 85 p 1)
Khambou Sounisai	Chairman, Vientiane Capital People's Assembly. Opened meeting on discussion of drafting of constitution (PS 26 Dec 84 p 1)
Lt Col Khamkeuan	Member, Vientiane Capital Party Committee and SPC, Nasaithong District. Attended 40th anniver- sary of VPA (VM 21 Dec 84 p 1)
Kham-ouan Boupha	First Deputy Minister of Industry, Handicrafts and Forestry. Attended ceremony on occasion of soap factory meeting production target (KPL 12 Dec 84 pp A2, 3)
Khamphet Pagnachak	DPC, CAC, Saithani District, Vientiane Capital. Attended ceremony establishing food grains corp- oration. (VM 29 Dec 84 p 1)
Khamphet Phengmeuang	First Vice Chairman, State Planning Commission. Attended meeting of census project (PS 27 Nov 84 p 1)
Khamphong Phanvongsa	LPRYU Secretary for Vientiane Capital. Attended rally for youth on Thai seizure of Lao villages. (PS 20 Nov 84 p 1)
Khamven Aikeo	1st DPC, and CAC, Sekong Province. Gave views on population census in his capacity as chief, Province Population Census Guidance Committee (PS 26 Feb 85 p 2)
Kideng Thammavong	VCA, and chief provincial Agricultural Department. Discussed agricultural production in 1984 (PS 22 Jan 85 p 2)
Latsami	DPC, Houa Phan Province. Lectures on party build- ing in province (PS 20 Mar 85 p 2)
Nhiavu Lobliayao	Member, LPRP CC, Chairman of the Nationalities Committee and member of the Central Commission of the Population Census. Attended meeting on census (PS 27 Nov 84 p 1)
Oudon Lasavang	DPC, Louang Namtha Province. Spoke to meeting of census cadres (PS 31 Jan 85 p 1)

Phosai Sihachak	DPC, Saravane Province. Attended meeting on economic construction of province (KPL 25 Jan 85 p A4)
Saiphon Detnakhon	Chief, Foreign Relations Section, Champassak Province. Headed delegation to Nghe Tinh Province, SRV for economic and cultural talks (KPL 23 Nov 84 p A8)
Lt Gen Saman Vignaket	LPRP CC Secretary; Chief, Central Organization Commission; Chairman, Preparatory Committee for 12th World Youth and Student Festival. Presided over opening of arts contest (PS 17 Nov 84 p 1)
Savang Saikhampheng	Member, LPRP Committee and Administrative Committee, Vientiane Capital. SPC, Saisettha District, Vientiane Capital. Recollections on 30th LPRP anniversary (VM 12 Mar 85 p 2)
Lt Col Siboun Khounthongbang	Member, LPRP Committee and Administrative Committee; Chief, Vientiane Capital Military Command. Lectures on Resolution No 7 and year-end summary (VM 12 Mar 85 p 1)
Sieng Kong	Member, Party Committee and Guidance Committee for the establishment of Bolikhamsai Province. Interviewed on development of province (PS 28 Jan 85 p 2)
Sounthon Thammavong	DPC, VCA Saravane Province. Attended meeting on census (KPL 15 Jan 85 p A 2)
Souvandi Phommali	DPC, CAC Luang Prabang Province and Chairman, Lao-Soviet Friendship Committee. Spoke at LPRP Congress (PS 10 Apr 85 p 1)
Thong-in Thammakhot	DPC, CAC Champassak Province. Update on position (PS 14 Jan 85 p 1)
Thongphan Insankeovilai	DPC, CAC, Houa Phan Province. Gives views on census (PS 15 Feb 85 p 2)
Thongvin Phomvihan	Acting 1st Secretary, LPRYU Executive Committee. Attended mobilization meeting for youths on Thai seizure of Lao villages (PS 20 Nov 84 p 1)
Tongli Yiaseng	First DPC, Phong Saly Province. Attended district party conference in Namtha District, Louang Namtha Province (PS 16 Nov 84 p 1)
Vison Saignavong	Member, Vientiane Capital Party Committee, SPC, Chanthabouli District, Vientiane Capital. Attended rally supporting LPDR Foreign Ministry white book on Thai-Lao relations (VM 31 Oct 84 p 1)

LAOS

BRIEFS

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT ATTENDS EXHIBIT--Vientiane, 17 May (OANA-KPL)--The Ministry of Culture, with the cooperation of the Ho Chi Minh Museum and the Vietnamese Embassy opened here on 16 May a photo exhibition on President Ho Chi Minh to mark his 95th birthday (19 May). The opening ceremony was attended by Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the LPRP CC and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and other senior officials. Members of the diplomatic corps here were also present. Thongsing Thammavong, alternate member of the LPRP CC and minister of culture, and Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Xuan, in their speeches, stressed that President Ho Chi Minh was the first communist to introduce Marxism-Leninism into Vietnam and Indochina as a whole. They praised his revolutionary activities, especially his devotion to the Vietnamese revolution, the Indochinese revolution, and the interests of all oppressed people in the world. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0854 GMT 17 May 85 BK]

FINANCE DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR PRK--Vientiane, 15 May (KPL)--A delegation of the Lao Ministry of Finance led by its Deputy-Minister Bounlit Khemnavong left here on 13 May for the People's Republic of Kampuchea on a friendship visit. The delegation is to exchange views with the Kampuchean side on financial management and other related issues. It was farewelled at Wattai Airport by Bounkham Phimmasseng and Kikham Vongsai, deputy-ministers of finance. Chhong Oteun, charge d'affairs a.i. of the Kampuchean Embassy here was also present at the send-off. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0917 GMT 15 May 85 BK]

HUNGARIAN PROPAGANDA DELEGATION DEPARTS--Vientiane, 14 May (KPL)--A delegation of the propaganda and training board of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party led by its vice-president Vagner Ferenc left here on 11 May concluding a five-day visit to Laos. During its stay, the delegation called on Sopha Khotphouthon, vice-president of the propaganda and training board of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC. It also gave lectures here on the success of the 13th Congress of the HSWP and the significance of the 40th National Day of Hungary. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 14 May 85 BK]

CUBAN COOPERATION DELEGATION ARRIVES--Vientiane, 13 May (OANA-KPL)--A delegation of the Cuban-Lao Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation led by its president, Lester Rodriguez arrived here on 11 May on an official

friendship visit. During its stay, the delegation is to attend the third conference of the commission to be convened here soon. Meeting the delegation at Wattai Airport were Phao Bounnaphon, minister of transport and post, president of the Lao-Cuban Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation, and other senior officials. Cuban Ambassador Mario Garcia Vazquez was also present. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 13 May 85 BK]

AID FROM GDR--Vientiane, 17 May (OANA-KPL)--GDR Ambassador to Laos Dietrich Jarck on 15 May handed over 75,000 marks worth of aid to the Lao Ministry of Finance. The aid included lorries, school materials, and [as received] amplifier and 11 tons of consumer goods. Representing the Laos side at the handover ceremony was Bounkham Phimmaseng, deputy-minister of finance. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0857 GMT 17 May 85 BK]

CUBA AIDS DAIRY FARM--Vientiane, 17 May (KPL)--A milk cow farm built with the assistance of the Republic of Cuba was handed over here yesterday to the Lao PDR. Signatories to the hand-over document Phao Bounnaphon, minister of transport and post and president of the Lao Section for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, and Lester Rodriguez, vice-president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation and president of the Cuban Section of the joint commission. Cuban Ambassador Mario Garcia Vazquez was also present on this occasion. The construction of the farm was started in 1980 and completed early this year. It has over 100 milk cows, and over 250 hectares of pasture. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0859 GMT 17 May 85 BK]

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM MOSCOW--Vientiane, 15 May (KPL)--A delegation of the National Committee for Social Welfare and War Veterans led by its President Meun Somvichit, who is also a member of the party CC returned here yesterday from Moscow. The delegation participated in the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism in Moscow on 9 May. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 15 May 85 BK]

NEW BRIDGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION--Vientiane, 15 May (KPL)--The state construction enterprise No 1 with the cooperation of Soviet experts are building a bridge over the Se Bang Hiang River. Another new bridge, the Bang Liang Bridge, on Highway No 13 has been 90 percent completed. It is 65 metres long and has a capacity of F30 [metric] tons. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0926 GMT 15 May 85 BK]

KHAMMOUANE ROAD REPAIR--Vientiane, 16 May (KPL)--Considerable achievements have been socred by a road and bridge construction unit of central Khammouane Province, according to a report by a local KPL correspondent. Since early this year, the report said, the unit has successfully repaired a 48 km-long portion of Highway No 13 linking Khammouane township and its southern Se Bangfai locality, and a 21 km-long section on Route No 12 joining Gnommalat and Boualapha Districts. The unit has also finished constructing a 4.5 by 18 m bridge and laying a sewer in the township. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 16 May 85 BK]

PARTY DELEGATION TO GDR--Vientiane, 13 May (KPL)--A delegation of the organizational board of the LPRP Central Committee led by Bouaphim, deputy-head of

the board, left here on 11 May for the German Democratic Republic. The delegation is to exchange views with GDR party officials on the training of party cadres based on a cooperation agreement between the two countries. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 13 May 85 BK]

AID FROM GDR YOUTH--Vientiane, 13 May (OANA-KPL)--A carpentry shop with the assistance of the Free German Youth League [FGYL] has handed over on framework of a cooperation plan between the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union and the FGYL. Representing the Lao side at the hand-over ceremony were Phiang Sisoulat, deputy-minister of education, and Dietrich Jarck, GDR ambassador to Laos. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 13 May 85 BK]

FILMS WEEK HELD--Vientiane, 18 May (OANA-KPL)--The Lao Ministry of Culture and the diplomatic missions of the socialist countries to Laos are jointly organizing here a films week to mark the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarisms. The films week,, on here since 16 May, was by [as received] Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and other senior officials and officers. Representatives of the socialist diplomatic corps to Laos were also on hand. On show on this occasion are documentaries from Vietnam, Kampuchea, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria, Cuban, Mongolia and the GDR. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 18 May 85 BK]

USSR TRADE UNION DELEGATION--Vientiane, 9 May (KPL)--Thitsoi Sombatdouang, alternate member of the party CC, president of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions CC, received here yesterday a visiting delegation of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR led by V. M. Sviridov, member of the Council and president of the trade union organization of Oudmourtie [as recieved] region. T. Sombatdouang and his guest discussed how to promote the friendly relations between the two organizations. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 9 May 85 BK]

SOVIET AMITY GROUP DEPARTS--Vientiane, 11 May (KPL)--A delegation of the Soviet-Lao Friendship Association led by Ekorov Marat, president of the Soviet-Lao Friendship Association of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and vice-president of the Belorussian Fund for Peace, left here on 8 May after an official visit to Laos. During its stay here, the delegation attended the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism, and toured various construction bases. It was farewelled at Wattai Airport by Somsanit Khambai, secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao-Soviet Frãndship Association, and other senior officials. V. Naoumtchik, representative of the Soviet-Lao Friendship Association here, was also present at the sendoff. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 11 May 85 BK]

SCHOOL DELEGATION TO MOSCOW--Vientiane, 10 May (KPL)--A delegation of the higher party school led by Chanmi Douangboudi, member of the LPRP CC, director of the school, left here on 8 May for Moscow to attend a scientific conference to be held on the occasion of the 30th signing anniversary of the Warsaw Treaty and the opening ceremony of a political seminar of Lao students at the

higher party school in Moscow. Seeing the delegation off at Wattai Airport were Somlat Chanthamat, member of the EERP CC, head of its propaganda and training board, and other senior officials. D. Khaliouline, political adviser of the Soviet Embassy in Laos, was also on hand. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 10 May 85 BK]

CZECHOSLOVAK EXPERTS--Vientiane, 10 May (OANA-KPL)--The department in charge of foreign experts in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry, Handicraft and Forestry organized here yesterday a get-together to extend best wishes to the Czechoslovak experts working Laos, on the occasion of the 40th National Day of Czechoslovakia. Soulivong Dalavong, deputy-minister of industry, handicraft and forestry, and V. Kustek, third secretary of the Czechoslovak Embassy to Laos, respectively delivered speeches. The Lao side expressed thanks to the Czechoslovak party, government and people for their support to the Lao revolution. He also wished to further development of the friendship and fraternal solidarity between the two countries. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 10 May 85 BK]

LAO, SOVIET BOOK EXHIBITION--Vientiane, 10 May (OANA-KPL)--The Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the Soviet Embassy in Laos is opening here an exhibition of Lao and Soviet books in honour of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism. On display are books, magazines, newspapers, stamps, records and other items. Present at the opening ceremony were Phao Bounnaphon, member of the party CC, minister of transport and post, and Thongsing Thammavong, alternate-member of the party CC, minister of culture. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 10 May 85 BK]

LEADERS ATTEND SOVIET ENVOY'S RECEPTION--Vientiane, 11 May (OANA-KPL)--Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Sobchenko hosted a reception here on 9 May in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism. Among those present at the reception were Nouthak Phoumsavan, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC, first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Phoumi Vongvichit and Phoun Sipaseut, Political Bureau members of the LPRP CC and vice-chairmen of the Council of Ministers. The reception was also attended by diplomatic envoys and military attaches of the socialist countries and Soviet experts working here. Toasts were raised to the success and prosperity of the fraternal Soviet people. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 11 May 85 BK]

LEADERS ATTEND CSSR RECEPTION--Vientiane, 10 May (KPL)--The extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic of Laos, Dr L. Kocsis, offered a reception here on 8 May to welcome the 40th National Day of Czechoslovakia. The reception was attended by Phoumi Vongvichit, Politbureau member of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Phoun Sipaseut, Politbureau member of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of foreign affairs, and other senior officials. Members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations to Laos were also on hand. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 10 May 85 BK]

HEALTH DELEGATION TO GENEVA--Vientiane, 4 May (OANA-KPL)--A delegation of the Lao Ministry of Public Health led by its acting Minister Khamiliang Phonsena left here on 2 May for Geneva to attend a plenary session of the World Health Organization (WHO) there. Dr Pommek Dalaloi, Prof Vannalet Latsapho, and Phen Phengsi-gna, deputy-ministers of public health, were present for the send-off. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 4 Apr 85 BK]

COOPERATION WITH HANOI--Vientiane, 6 May (OANA-KPL)--Delegates of the communication, transport, and post services of Vientiane and Hanoi held talks here on 6 May on a plan for friendly cooperation. They agreed to cooperate in the development of Vientiane City and the building of a public park here. Representing the Lao side at the talks was Sai Phakkasoum, deputy-minister, head of the Vientiane communication, transport, post and construction service. The Vietnamese delegation arrived here on 4 May and will stay here until 11 May. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT [date indistinct] 85 BK]

FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION RETURNS--Vientiane, 7 May (KPL)--A delegation of the Lao-Vietnamese Friendship Association led by its Vice-President Ounheuan Phounsavat was back home on 4 May after attending a celebration of the 10th anniversary of the liberation day of South Vietnam (30 April). During its week-long stay here, the delegation attended meetings in Hanoi honouring the 10th anniversary of the liberation of South Vietnam and May Day. It also took part in a ceremony to inaugurate a new branch of the Vietnamese-Lao Friendship Association in Hanoi. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 7 May 85 BK]

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM INDIA--Vientiane, 4 May (OANA-KPL)--A delegation of the Lao Foreign Ministry led by its deputy-minister Souliyong Phasitthidet was back home on 30 April from India. The delegation attended a special ministerial conference of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Countries on Namibia in New Delhi on 18-24 April. Meeting the delegation at the airport here were Inpong Khai-gnavong, deputy-minister of foreign affairs, and Shiv Kumar, Indian ambassador to Laos. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 4 Apr 85 BK]

SWEDISH ORGANIZATION'S AID--Vientiane, 6 May (OANA-KPL)--Under an agreement signed here on 4 May, the SIDA of Sweden will help build in Laos many projects during the 1985-86 period with a total amount of 65 million kronor (Swedish currency). The aid will be used in the conservation and exploitation of forestry, development of communication means and construction of a machines-repairing shop. SIDA will also help Laos in building a bridge on Road No 10, and a small experimental thermal electric power station run on coal. The documents were signed by Damdouan Phomdouangsi, member of the Lao-Swedish co-operation committee and head of the State Forestry Enterprise No 01, and Carl-Bertil Loltelius [name as received], SIDA's representative. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 6 May 85 BK]

CSO: 4200/952

MALAYSIA

RADIO COMMENTS ON MAHATHIR'S THAILAND VISIT

BK161455 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 16 May 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The 2-day visit of the Malaysian prime minister, Dr Mahathir Mohamed, to southern Thailand for talks with his Thai counterpart, General Prem Tinsulanon, is of some importance in view of the current security situation along the Thai-Kampuchean border. Owing to the geographical proximity of the two countries, relations with Thailand are quite important even crucial for Malaysia. There are several common interests as well as strong ties that bind the two countries. Both Malaysia and Thailand have constitutional monarchs as the heads of state. ASEAN is central to the foreign policy of both nations. Malaysia and Thailand have for several decades mounted determined campaigns against overt communist expansion as well as covert communist subversion. The outlawed Communist Party of Thailand operates mainly in isolated areas, including the south close to the Thai-Malaysian border. In that same region, remnants of the CPM or the Communist Party of Malaya have their hideouts.

Like Malaysia, Thailand has become a country of first asylum for thousands of Vietnamese who are prepared to take serious risks to leave their homeland and to seek a new life elsewhere. Thailand has been burdened not only with the boat people problem but also with the Kampuchean refugee problem in recent years. In the words of the Thai foreign minister, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, Thailand accorded refuge to the Kampuchians for humanitarian reasons. Although several nations have provided some resources for refugee relief, the fact remains that Thailand and the Thai people have carried the main burden of looking after these unfortunate victims of Vietnamese aggression. Like Malaysia, Thailand is forced from time to time to remind the international community that the refugees must be resettled in third countries, leaving no residual problems for the countries of the first refuge.

Thailand has become a front-line state because of the Vietnamese invasion and occupation of Kampuchea that much [as heard] admiration as well as respect and sympathy for Thailand in the Malaysian community and among fellow ASEAN states for the calm manner in which the Thai leaders are handling the provocative actions of Vietnam.

It is well known that Thailand is concerned to minimize any threats to its national security arising from the occupation of Kampuchea by Vietnam. Thailand has been most active in efforts to obtain a political solution to the Kampuchean problem. In cooperation with ASEAN, Thailand's aim is to achieve a withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. Thailand, like Malaysia, wants an independent, neutral, and nonaligned Kampuchea which poses no threat to its neighbors.

It can be taken for granted that the Malaysian and Thai heads of government will discuss the Kampuchean crisis as a matter of urgency. Malaysia and Thailand have enjoyed very cordial relations even before the advent of ASEAN. It is therefore pitiful to see Vietnam treating its own neighbors in Southeast Asia with so much suspicion and hostility. Vietnam's policy in Kampuchea has made it dependent on a superpower, and its stand is condemned by the overwhelming majority of the world community. The meeting of the two prime ministers in Phuket, southern Thailand, will be observed with much interest.

CSO: 4200/957

MALAYSIA

MAHATHIR RETURNS AFTER DISCUSSIONS IN THAILAND

BK171543 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1230 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir arrived in Kuala Lumpur this evening after ending his 2-day visit to Thailand, where he discussed with his counterpart the mutual importance of setting up an overlapping sea boundary along the east coast of peninsular Malaysia. During their discussions agreement was reached on the issue of chartered flights for tourists. Bilateral economic cooperation was also agreed upon on production of components for the Malaysian-made car: Proton Saga. The project will be implemented on a joint-venture basis. While in Phuket today, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said Malaysia will immediately establish a task force to expedite the joint process with Thailand for producing automobile components. He added that directives will be given to Malaysian officials to establish this task force as soon as possible. He said both parties will also establish a committee to study the different materials and the distribution of components to be produced by both countries.

Touching on the problem of fisheries, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said Malaysia and Thailand will consider the possibility of a joint venture in the fisheries industry by using Thailand's technology and vessels, and Malaysia's capital. This will resolve mutual problems in the fishing sector. The prime minister said Malaysia will consider the possibility of carrying out a joint venture in the fisheries sector with Thailand in the South China Sea.

Our correspondent Madam Sharifah Azmah reports that the problem of developing petroleum and gas resources found in the border region was also discussed by the two prime ministers. Malaysia is proposing to Thailand that equal distribution, on a 50-50 basis, be given to the commodity that was found along both countries' common boundary. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said he had achieved a decision based on ground common to both parties. The decision is that Thai contractors and their Malaysian counterparts--Petronas--will export and produce oil and gas resources on a shared basis; all concerned parties will receive their fair share.

Malaysia and Thailand agreed that people of both countries should visit the other country. In this connection, Malaysia wants more Thai to visit places like Kuching and Kota Kinabalu, which are not on their usual air route. General Prem Tinsulanon basically agreed that discussions concerning the landing rights for aircraft should be expedited.

MALAYSIA

COMMENTARY HAIIES PNG'S PARTICIPATION IN ASEAN

BK141643 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 14 May 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Important decisions have been taken that attach to the resilience and dynamism of ASEAN. In Kuala Lumpur last week, the ASEAN Standing Committee approved the allocation of about M\$4 million, or U.S.\$1.7 million, for the ASEAN Secretariat for the 1985-86 financial year. Agreement was reached on allowing PNG to participate in the work of three ASEAN committees--namely, the ASEAN Committee of Food, Agriculture and Forestry; the Committee on Social Development; and the Committee on Social Technology. Up till now, PNG has had only an observer status at ASEAN meetings. This new relationship between ASEAN and PNG is a very significant event in the development of closer and more cordial ties with the South Pacific community of island states.

PNG is by far the largest of the developing nations of the South Pacific and it has been described as being the most fascinating and challenging area, developmentally. It is at the western edge of the South Pacific but it is right alongside Indonesia. PNG has a land border with Indonesia. It is, therefore, at this border that geographically the South Pacific meets Southeast Asia.

PNG celebrates 10 years of independence since September this year. The new relationship with ASEAN symbolizes its growing role in international affairs. The human and material resources of PNG are impressive and there will be more prospects for joint ventures and development projects with ASEAN.

An official publication mentions that PNG was influenced unduly by trends and standards set by expatriates--Australians--and that it needed more contacts with other developing nations. The new ASEAN (?way) will provide exactly that dimension. Also, PNG will be a kind of bridge between ASEAN and the growing Pacific community. Like ASEAN, the Pacific nations have established a regional identity through their South Pacific forum. Many of their aspirations and the economic goals and problems are comparable to or even identical with those of the ASEAN nations, and so we can look forward to mutually rewarding partnerships, particularly in economic matters between Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

Another ASEAN event was the meeting of the ASEAN trade officials held in Phatthaya, Thailand, at the end of last week to discuss ASEAN's position regarding textiles as well as a new round of multilateral trade negotiations. With the rapid spread of protectionism, it has become increasingly difficult for goods from developing nations to obtain access to markets and countries like Japan and the U.S.A. It is only by improved access to developed countries' markets that the developing countries can increase the income and muster the resources needed for further economic and social development. That is why, apart from the Phatthaya conference, yet another ASEAN-sponsored gathering will take place this week. This will involve senior ASEAN economic officials and the Japanese counterparts. Their topic will be the present trade pattern between ASEAN and Japan and the prospect for lifting the discriminatory trade barriers imposed on ASEAN products. ASEAN continues to grow and to win respect because of its pragmatic approach to the problem that it had to deal with.

CSO: 4200/957

MALAYSIA

MINISTER ON APPEALS TO BRAZIL TO CONTROL TIN

BK161309 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 16 May 85

[Text] Malaysia has appealed to Brazil to control its tin production to prevent a collapse of the tin market. The minister of primary industries, Datuk Paul Leong, says Brazil has not shown any positive response to appeals by other producer countries to contain its production export level. Without Brazilian cooperation, efforts by the International Tin Council--TIC--to stabilize the market would take longer and prove more punishing to the council's producer members. The minister points out that some consumer countries in the ITC have taken unfair advantage of the ITC's efforts to stabilize the market by increasing the production.

He also expressed concern over a move in the European Community to reduce the use of tin in the manufacture of food cans. The proposition did not appear to be based on any concrete evidence that the current levels of tin used in food cans are harmful. He urged tin-producing nations in Southeast Asia to eradicate the smuggling of tin concentrates which is undermining the ITC's export controls.

The minister was speaking at the annual meeting of the states of Malaya [as heard] Chamber of Mines in Kuala Lumpur.

CSO: 4200/957

MALAYSIA

MAHATHIR ON UMNO UNITY, INTEGRITY OF MEMBERS

BK191247 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Prime Minister and UMNO [United Malays National Organization] President Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed reiterated today in his call to UMNO members to reject leaders who resort to buying of votes to win positions in the party. He urged all party members to give their full support to the UMNO Supreme Council so that firm action could be taken against leaders who won party contests through vote buying. He was speaking at the opening of the Ulu Terengganu UMNO division delegates conference in Kuala Behrang.

He stressed that if these people who advanced through this corrupt practice got the opportunity to become leaders of the country, they would make the government dirty, the country weak, and UMNO fall. He was confident the people of this country do not want to see the leadership of the ministers consisting of people who wanted (this) through corruption, but want the country to have a clean, efficient, and trustworthy administration. The prime minister adds that UMNO will continue to be strong if the members remain united and give their unanimous support to elected leaders. He also said that no matter how good the leadership of party may be, it will not be able to function if its supporters are not united.

The UMNO president went on to warn party members against using the court as a forum to voice their dissatisfaction over internal party matters. The court, he said, could only give solutions on legal aspects and could not possibly bring calm to the situation to restore unity among the members. Stressing on this point, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir urged UMNO members to refer any dissatisfaction to the division, state UMNO liaison body, or the Supreme Council. This, he added, is the best way to avoid disunity as it will enable higher-ups in the party to carry out investigations, hold consultations, and attain solutions.

CSO: 4200/957

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO NETHERLANDS---Mr Nik Mohamed bin Nik Hassan has been appointed by the Foreign Ministry as Malaysia's new ambassador to the Netherlands. He replaces Mr Tharmaratnam, who has been posted as the Malaysian high commissioner to Singapore. Mr Nik Mohamed, who is the third deputy secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, began his career with the Foreign Ministry in 1965 and had served in Malaysian missions in Bangkok, Ottawa, Cairo, Beijing, and Tokyo. [Summary] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 18 May 85 BK]

RITAHUDEEN URGES ISLAMIC CONFERENCE COOPERATION---Malaysia wants members of the Islamic Conference Organization to enhance their cooperation in the economic field. This includes investment as well as the manufacturing and transportation sectors. The minister of foreign affairs, Tengku Ahmad Ritahuddeen, says member-countries should take the necessary steps to ensure such cooperation materializes. He said there should not be any practices of protectionism in developing countries, especially among ICO member-nations. Tengku Rithauddeen was speaking to reporters after holding talks with the ICO Secretary General Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada in Kuala Lumpur today. During the meeting Tengku Rithauddeen also reiterated Malaysia's neutral stand on the West Asia issues. He said as a member of the ICO Peace Committee, Malaysia is actually involved in pursuing solutions to the Gulf conflict. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 14 May 85 BK]

CSO: 4200/957

NEW CALEDONIA

INDEPENDENCE LEADER TAKES STOCK OF SITUATION

Paris LE MONDE in French 14-15 Apr 85 p 8

[Article by Federic Felloux]

[Text] Tribu de Gohapin--The Caledonian Union, the major party in the FLNKS [Kanaka Socialist National Liberation Front], chose Tribu de Gohapin, a small village at the heart of New Caledonia, lost in a wealth of greenery in the middle of the mountain chain for its steering committee.

The steering committee meeting on Saturday, 13 April, was marked by the return to the outposts of Jean-Marie Tjibaou, vice-president of the Caledonian Union, a party that is reorganizing in order to regain its position within the FLNKS, as the independence leader explained. The steering committee's goal was to take stock of the actions undertaken since 18 November and to define how it might react to the upcoming governmental decisions on the territory's future. The meeting occurred 2 days prior to Tjibaou's departure for Paris, as he confirmed it. Officially, the trip is in response to an invitation extended by the Ministry of Culture for the dedication of the Museum of Oceanic Imagination.

At his press conference, however, Tjibaou indicated that he had received several invitations: "We have been invited to Guadeloupe, in the next 2 or 3 weeks, to Germany, Japan and Algeria."

Tjibaou did not rule out an acceptance of the invitations. "We will discuss this in Paris. It will depend upon the contacts I will have, if I will be given the time." On the question of whether he would see French political leaders, Tjibaou indicated that it was not scheduled. He further stated that his movement was preparing to react to the proposals that the government will make.

Although no decisions were reached by the steering committee, Tjibaou did not rule out the possibility of a change in the organization's schedule for a referendum on self-determination. "The return of authority to the Kanaka people can be negotiated over a timetable," he stated. "For us, the most important thing is to obtain sovereignty in order to attain a Kanaka Socialist independence."

Tjibaou also declared, "On 18 November, we took the initiative to stop the course of colonial history. Another important observation: France can grant independence, but it must be Kanaka Socialist independence. This is not the French government's plan." "Today, everyone sees that the security of the territory implies independence and that there can be no security for us Kanakas or for anyone without independence. The French government has invested enormous sums to keep peace. If we had put all of this money into development, many things would be different today."

12413

CSO: 4219/51

PHILIPPINES

CATHOLIC CLERGY ORGANIZATION OPPOSES U.S. MILITARY AID

HK140933 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 5 May 85 p 5

[Text] A Luzon-based federation of Roman Catholic bishops and priests is opposing a move to increase U.S. military aid to the Philippine Government, describing the assistance as "direct intervention" in Philippine affairs.

The Luzon Secretariat of Social Action (LUSSA), in a recently concluded convention at the Maryhill Retreat Center in Taytay, Rizal also:

--Deplored what it said were the onerous conditions imposed by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the Philippines;

--Condemned the April 11 assassination in North Catabato of Italian priest, Fr Tullio Favali, PIME [Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions -- from initials of society's Latin name -- FBIS], by members of the Civilian Home Defense Force (CHDF);

--Opposed the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant which, it said, threatens human life and which the Philippine Government cannot afford.

In their statement, the bishops and priests said the U.S. military aid is being used by the Philippine Government to "continue its assault on the dignity and rights of our people".

The economic aid from the United States is also used for the same purpose, according to LUSSA, which asked Americans to block a research proposal for increased aid to President Marcos.

"Only genuine political and economic reforms could bring about for our citizenry a politically and economically just society," said LUSSA.

Denouncing the World Bank and the IMF, the clergy said the policies of these foreign lending institutions have resulted in the underdevelopment of the Philippine economy and the poverty of the Filipino people.

LUSSA lashed out at the two institutions for pressing the Philippine Government to lower tariffs, liberalize import licensing, adopt an export-oriented economic program, encourage foreign investment and devalue the peso.

The financing institutions were also criticized for pressuring the country to reorient its educational system to meet the needs of transnational corporations and for their role in the appointment of technocrats to the Philippine Government.

Condemning the Favali slaying, the bishops and priests demanded the disbanding of the CHDF and other paramilitary groups--as they disclosed efforts of the government to suppress the church.

LUSSA said Favali's assassination fits in with the anti-church Banzer plan adopted in Latin America which, it said, intends to break the church's solidarity with the "poor, deprived and oppressed" through assassinating priests and nuns.

LUSSA said it is against the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant which, it said, has various unresolved technical problems and endangers human life.

Questioning the plant's economic viability, LUSSA said \$1.9 billion has already been spent on its construction, or three times more than its original price.

LUSSA said another \$500 million is needed to finish the plant and make it operational. The amount does not include additional funding needed to install additional safety requirements, and to insure and maintain the plant.

CSO: 4200/933

PHILIPPINES

PEREZ SAYS MARCOS DOES NOT NEED FRESH MANDATE

HK160741 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting Service in English 0400 GMT
16 May 85

[Text] Political Affairs Minister Leonardo Perez says there is no need for President Marcos to get a fresh mandate until his term expires in 1987. Perez said getting a fresh mandate from the people earlier than 1987 would be to denigrate the political [word indistinct] between the people and the president. Marilu Linggad reports:

[Begin Linggad recording] Minister Perez was reacting to a statement made by opposition Member of Parliament Neptali Gonzales at the Batasan [word indistinct]. [Words indistinct] was the issue on synchronization of elections. The [words indistinct] was also attended by Deputy Prime Minister Jose Rono, MP Manuel Garcia, MP Homobono Adaza, and MP Luis Villafuerte.

Instead of working for later elections in 1987, MP Gonzales [words indistinct] if this could be held together with the elections next year. He said the president can run again in 1986 in order to achieve a fresh mandate from the people. However Minister Perez pointed out that there is an understanding between the people and the president for the mandate [words indistinct] until it expires in 1987. [end recording]

[Perez recording indistinct]

[Begin Linggad recording] At the same time Minister Perez said the synchronization of elections is an [words indistinct] the country of election incentives. [Words indistinct] Perez said it will bog down the (mechanics). MP Manuel Garcia has suggested that, in order not to mention a certain mandate, local elections could be held in 1986 with the understanding that local officials elected can only stand for a period of (4) years. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

CSO: 4200/947

5 June 1985

PHILIPPINES

PAPER NOTES ONLY MARCOS CAN INSTITUTE AFP REFORMS.

HK141444 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 8 May 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Only Marcos Can"]

[Text] The best news yet to come out of the military is that a group of idealistic, young and uncorrupted officers has started to work for reforms in the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines].

These officers, from lieutenant to lieutenant colonel, most of them PMA [Philippine Military Academy] graduates, have been aroused to action by what has been going on in the Armed Forces, such as:

Abuses committed by officers and men on the civilian population; corruption in all echelons of the major commands; influence-peddling in matters of assignments and promotions; continued stay in the service of old, retirable officers; and the running of the AFP by a powerful clique of entrenched officers.

A major factor behind the almost spontaneous birth of the "Reformist Movement" was the treacherous and well-planned assassination of the late Ninoy Aquino by it is now clear, a "military conspiracy".

The "Reformist Movement" is convinced that unless drastic reforms are instituted in the Armed Forces now, the communist insurgency will escalate to a point where the government will fall. When this happens, it will be the end of democracy in our country, the reformers fear.

The movement will achieve its ends within the constitutional framework, according to Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile who talked about the organization during last Monday's "Kapihan sa Manila" [Manila Coffeeshop] at the Manila Hotel. He said it will not undermine society, the government or the presidency.

The minister also disclosed that on the President's order, the "Reformist Movement" has been investigated and the results already submitted to him.

As the commander-in-chief of the AFP, it is only the President who can initiate and follow through the drastic reforms demanded by the "Reformist

Movement". He has the sole power to appoint, to discipline, and to effect such needed reforms as are needed to revitalize the present Armed Forces.

The question is: Will Mr Marcos rise above personal ambitions and political considerations to revamp the Armed Forces and transform it into a fighting machine sufficient to put down the growing communist menace?

CSO: 4200/933

PHILIPPINES

RAMOS SAYS LAWYERS ARRESTED FOR VIOLATING SECURITY

HK171523 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 May 85 pp 1, 14

[Text] Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, acting AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief staff, said yesterday that two Abra lawyers were arrested not because they were lawyers for suspected communists but because they were lawyers for suspected communists but because they themselves violated national security.

At the same time, he allayed the fears of three national lawyers groups that the case poses grave implications for the legal profession.

The acting AFP chief of staff said the country's judicial system of which the legal profession is an integral part, remains a vibrant and functioning democratic institution with the full support of the national leadership.

Ramos made the statement following reports that a joint fact finding team of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, the Free Legal Assistance Group, and the Movement of Attorneys for Brotherhood, Integrity and Nationalism claimed that the arrest of lawyers Romeo Astudillo and Alberto Benesa appears to be a "prelude to a campaign to ultimately deprive the accused in national security cases of the services of counsel in violation of the Constitution."

Ramos and Astudillo and Benesa were arrested because they actually participated in ambushes, in the planning and conspiracy of rebellion as well as in the implementation of rebellion.

Armed Forces Lawyers, according to the acting AFP chief of staff, are ready to prove these charges which have been filed in courts. Astudillo and Benesa are out on bail.

Ramos said that the two accused lawyers will have their day in court just like any other citizen of the republic charged with violating the laws of the land.

As to the fears of the three lawyers groups of a "campaign" to deprive those accused of violation of national security of legal counsel, Ramos pointed out that this is far-fetched in view of the alertness and vigilance of civic groups like them.

CSO: 4200/947

PHILIPPINES

CONSTABULARY UNIT KILLS 27, WOUNDS 15 IN CLASH WITH NPA

HK161136 Quezon City Haralika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT
16 May 85

[Text] Twenty-seven communist terrorists were killed while 15 others were wounded in a fire fight with a constabulary detachment last Tuesday. The encounter took place in Barangay Calapagan, Lupon, Davao Oriental. Jun Francisco reports:

[Begin recording] Brig. Gen. Dionesia Tan-Gatue, PRC-INP [Philippine Constabulary--Integrated National Police] regional commander, said the clash erupted following an attempt by heavily armed rebels to overrun the detachment. Tan-Gatue, who inspected the scene of the encounter, said a body-count of fatalities was made before he returned to Davao City. He described, however, as inaccurate published reports of the incidents which claim that 93 rebels were killed. During the firefight, he said a soldier and a militaman were killed. They were identified as PC Sergeant Francisco Ripanggos and CHDF [Civilian Home Defence Force] member Antonio Mabaon. Tan-Gatue said the small detachment of the 433rd PC Company repulsed the NPA raiders during the firefight. Of the 22 defenders of the detachment, he said 2 died and 9 were wounded. [Words indistinct] numbering more than 150 swooped down early Tuesday and tried to overrun the constabulary militia post but were repeatedly turned back until reinforcements arrived. The defenders recovered 17 high-powered firearms from the dead and wounded guerrillas who were abandoned by their companions during their retreat. [end recording]

CSO: 4200/947

PHILIPPINES

DAILY EXPRESS ROUNDS UP CLASHES WITH NPA

HK101514 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY EXPRESS in English 10 May 85 p 3

[Text] Government troops killed three New People's Army rebels and captured 21 others including three amazons in separate incidents since Sunday, belated reports reaching Camp Aguinaldo yesterday said.

The intelligence chief of the Davao City District 1 NPA Front was killed and seven others were captured in a shootout with PC [Philippine Constabulary] Police and Marines at the Hilton Sawmill compound in Matina District.

Col Laudemer Kahulugan, Davao metropolitan district command chief, identified the slain rebel as Elizaldo Apusaga alias Cyrus and Gerry. The captured rebels were identified as Roberto dela Manon, alias Loloy; Amble Ginoo; Gandi Polvordo, alias David Roy; Edgar Leyte, alias Butz; Bienvenido Babiano, alias Edu; Ephraim Larne, and Evangeline Larne.

Recovered from the scene of the encounter were one caliber .22 pistol, one caliber .22 home-made revolver, one caliber .22 Magnum and a home-made revolver which uses 5.56 mm Armalite bullets.

In Davao del Sur, two PC-Police teams on patrol intercepted six heavily armed rebels, at Sitio Pawa, Basiawan, Sta Maria town, killing one of them and capturing two others after a 10-minute firefight.

Killed was a certain "Commander Boggy" and captured were Sherlita Dumape and Ricardo Alieno. A caliber .38 home-made revolver with three bullets was captured from the slain rebel.

A PC-Police patrol engaged a group of heavily armed NPA guerrillas in a firefight at Baliwag Nuevo, Minalabac, Camarines Sur, and killed one suspected NPA rebel and captured 10 others.

The slain NPA rebel was identified as Wilmar Almediere, alias Basoy. The captured rebels were identified as Ignacio Soliman, 45; Antonio Salire, 27; Dionisio delas Herras, 25; Marcelino Pamplona, all of Baliwag Nuevo; Jaime Berdin, 22, of Bula, Camarines Sur; Miller Sopena, 18, of Ombao, Bula; Alex Fabio, 19; Desiderio Lirio Jr, 22, and Alex Betito, all of San Jose, Minalabac town.

Recovered from the scene of the firefight were a caliber .38 revolver, a caliber .22 pistol, bullets and magazines for the pistol and two fan knives.

The secretary of the regional medical staff of the southern Mindanao regional party committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines was captured by PC troops in an encounter at Mahayag, Binawan, Davao City.

Captured was Cresencia Labria, alias Linda and Myrna. Captured from her were 100 bullets and handbooks on medicine.

In Davao Oriental, another PC team captured a suspected NPA rebel in an encounter at Malig, Don Mariano Marcos, Lupon town. The captured suspected rebel was identified as Leo Balanay. Captured from Balanay were documents and medicines.

Pagadian City. -- Terrorists burned down Sunday four houses at Barangay Maragang, Dumalinao town and killed two persons, belated reports said yesterday.

The charred bodies of the victims were recovered by government troopers sent to Maragang to check the burning. There was no report on the whereabouts of the occupants of the houses.

CSO: 4200/933

PHILIPPINES

ARMED FORCES CIVIL RELATIONS REPORT ON INSURGENCY

Insurgency in the Philippines, Part I

HK140350 Manila PHILIPPINES SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 12 May 85 p 5

[Article by the Civil Relations Service, Armed Forces of the Philippines:
"Insurgency in the Philippines" -- "First of two parts"]

[Text] This Insurgency Situationer is intended to alert Filipinos against the inroads of the communist movement in the country, specifically those of the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm, the "New People's Army".

During this period of crisis in the life of the Filipino nation, popular vigilance is a paramount need. Knowing the enemy, the conspiracy it has been carrying out to overthrow the country's democratic institutions, the clandestine nature of the process of infiltration and subversion of all sectors of the national community and the ruthlessness of its methods in terrorizing the civilian populace, should open the eyes of those who wrongly believe they can flirt with the enemies of the republic.

Government's response to the insurgency problem is now in high gear with the president's launching of a massive nationwide civic action program that is part of the total effort strategy he initiated to turn back the tide of insurgency and subversion. The people's support and participation are indispensable to the success of the national counterinsurgency program.

The main threat to national security is that posed by the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its military arm, the New People's Army (NPA). The CPP/NPA has managed through recent years to increase its strength and armaments, adopt organizational improvements and expand its insurgent operational areas. It has likewise accelerated subversive activities in the urban centers.

Today, the CPP/NPA is organized as follows: At the top is the Central Committee headed by Rodolfo Salas. The Central Committee supervises the activities of the four functional commissions, namely, the National Commission for Mass Movements, the National Propaganda Commission, the United Front Commission, and the National Military Commission.

Five territorial commissions for northern, central and southern Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao have been created to supervise the activities of its 16 regional and island party committees nationwide.

The strength of the NPA has been increasing since the lifting of martial law and their number is now placed at 10,000-12,000 regulars, about two-thirds of whom are armed.

CPP/NPA efforts to establish a Marxist system in the country can be categorized into two broad fields--insurgency in the countryside to win the hearts and minds of the rural population and thus destroy the economic and political base of the nation; and subversion in the urban centers designed to sap the internal strength of the nation and erode its will to fight.

In pursuit of their strategy to capture the countryside, they conduct limited guerrilla operations, primarily to acquire more firearms and ammunition and secondly, to make a show of force. They also carry out expansion activities designed to open up new guerrilla bases and fronts, widen the influence of the party and recruit as many regulars as possible.

The dissidents employ both persuasion and coercion in the barangays in order to establish footholds at the grassroots level. To persuade the people into supporting the communist cause, they generally exploit such issues as alleged military abuses and the government's alleged inability to deliver basic services to the rural areas. As a means of coercion, they have increasingly resorted to terroristic activities such as liquidations, raids and ambushes. They also conduct disarmings of military and paramilitary personnel as well as police elements in the implementation of their firearms acquisition program dubbed as "Operation Agaw-Armas" [Arms-Grabbing]. The insurgents also engage in liquidation to coerce or intimidate the populace into accepting the Marxist cause and to eliminate government officials opposing the communist movement, especially in the isolated and distant barangays.

The lifting of martial law in 1981 afforded the CPP/NPA relatively unrestricted freedom of movement and mobility thereby allowing them to intensify their recruitment, organizational, and terroristic activities. By 1984, more engagements between the AFP and the insurgents occurred.

Casualties were inflicted on both sides and there were as many civilians killed in the crossfire and in deliberate offensive actions by the CPP/NPA in order to coerce the civilians into supporting them. Quite a number of local government officials have been liquidated by the NPA for their non-cooperation. The increase in violent incidents in 1984, especially in Mindanao, were related to CPP/NPA efforts to disrupt the parliamentary elections last May, involving mostly ballot box snatchings and other election-related incidents. Other depredations, however, such as raids, ambushes, and liquidations, remained substantially at the same level as in 1983, the main object of which was to maximize firearms acquisition.

As a result of CPP/NPA activities, at least 1,816 or about 4 percent of the 41,615 barangays nationwide have come under some degree of CPP/NPA influence.

A barangay is considered to be under their influence if the party has established therein political organs capable of influencing the activities of that barangay, if a local militia has been formed and if about 50 percent of the people can be utilized to support party activities. In addition to the influenced barangays, another 9 percent have been reported to be infiltrated in the sense that the party occasionally sends armed propaganda units for political work in that barangay. Twenty-four percent of the barangays falling under this category are found in Mindanao. Such influence, however, is temporary in the sense that once government presence is reestablished, people readily and freely renounce any links with the insurgents whose hold on them was primarily through coercion and intimidation.

In their attempt to project a semblance of strength, the CPP/NPA, in some isolated instances, have employed company-size attack force against isolated government outposts. However, because of difficulties in planning and execution, they have managed to successfully stage only a few, which have come far between. However, during the first quarter of 1985, the AFP has seized the initiative in armed encounters and has reversed the trend to a 60-40 ratio in favor of the government.

Lately, the insurgents have intensified the conduct of sabotage operations, mostly arson, targeting both the government and private business sectors. They normally destroy the heavy equipment and machinery of agro-industrial establishments, particularly in Regions 9, 10, and 11 in Mindanao. The object of the effort is to disrupt production and damage the agricultural base of the economy in the hope of exacerbating unrest nationwide. It is also carried out whenever firms targeted for extortion refuse to financially support the underground movement. From 1981 to 1984, they have carried out a total of 42 major sabotage activities throughout the country, resulting in damages to property valued at P[pesos]328.68 million; broken down into P280.78 million in the private sector and P47.9 million in the government sector. The regions which suffered heavy losses as a result of sabotage operations were Region 2 (P188.44 M), Region 11 (P48.04 M), Region 9 (P38.7 M) and Region 10 (P24 M). Very recently during the first week of April 1985, another P5 M-worth of heavy equipment of the NPWA [National Public Works Authority] were burned by NPA in Barangay Piat, Municipality of Lopez Jaena, Misamis Occidental.

The CPP/NPA also engages in extortion and other forms of fundraising drives to support its activities. The primary source of party funds is the so-called "progressive tax" levied on logging concessionaires, business establishments, moneyed individuals and even farmers and barangay residents. Usually, these taxes are based on a certain percentage of the income of a person or a firm. However, the dissidents sometimes demand an exact amount from big entities such as logging companies and put a specific tax on the equipment being used by the firm. Firms which fail to give monetary support are harassed by the insurgents through sabotage of equipment and ambush of their personnel. In Region 11 alone, the dissidents generate about P4 million yearly from logging concessions and agro-industrial firms and P1 million from legal programs and institutions. The extortion activities of the CPP/NPA have been confirmed by former MNLF Commander Nur Khan of the Davao Revolutionary

Committee who, after returning to the fold of the law in February 1985 turned over vital documents to the Ministry of National Defense which include the list of private firms giving to the CPP/NPA in the Davao provinces.

In its two-pronged drive to topple the government, the party gives equal emphasis, alongside with its insurgent efforts in the countryside, to subversion in urban centers targeting all sectors of society.

United Front Efforts

The CPP considers United Front building as an essential part of its strategy to overthrow the government. To the party, a United Front is a broad alliance of all sectoral organizations and opposition groups which will concertedly work through legal and extra legal means to create a revolutionary situation in the urban centers to complement the armed struggle in the countryside. Included in this United Front are groups and individuals who may not necessarily embrace the communist line but are unwittingly made to accept the so-called "National Democratic" line by party cadres. The main targets of the CPP's subversive and United Front activities are the more volatile sectors of society, such as the student/youth, intellectual and media, labor, and the urban poor sectors, and even the religious sector. On the whole, the United Front is intended to help prepare the cities and key urban centers for the eventual takeover from the countryside at the final stage of the protracted people's war.

The party's United Front Commission (UFC) with its operating arm, the National Democratic Front (NDF), and the National Commission for Mass Movements (NCMM) work hand-in-hand to forge a broad alliance of all anti-government groups. The NDF, a communist umbrella organization, in turn is responsible for the setting up of tactical alliances with other opposition groups and even engages in international liaison work, the organization of the "White Area" or urban committees and serves as a channel for inter-regional relationship. The NCMM on the other hand, is responsible for the infiltration of the student/youth, labor, and peasant sectors.

Report on Insurgency, Part II

HK140400 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 13 May 85 p 5

[Article by the Civil Relations Service, Armed Forces of the Philippines: "Insurgency in the Philippines" -- "Conclusion"]

[Text] The studentry has always been a target of communist infiltration since they consider the youth as effective instruments in the pursuit of drastic changes because of the students' high ideals, dynamic character and keen sense of perception. The CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] utilizes student/youth groups to spearhead the conduct of anti-government rallies and demonstrations, boycotts of classes, and symposia.

The labor sector, on the other hand, draws the particular interest of the CPP because of its vitality, potential, and capacity to seriously affect

the national economy. In the communist concept of struggle, the industrial workers are considered as the vanguard of the revolution since they are generally more politically and socially conscious than the other target sectors, while the peasants composed of farmers and agricultural workers, assist and support the communist guerrillas in the rural areas.

Infiltration

Communist activities in these sectors can be broadly categorized into organizational, agitation-propaganda and United Front drives. CPP cadres gain influence in a particular group by infiltrating existing organizations or forming front groups to serve as legitimate covers for party-directed activities. They also serve as convenient fronts through which the CPP can attempt to undertake agitation-propaganda work, alliance-building and United Front activities. In its infiltration effort, CPP cadres aim to gain positions in an existing organization in order to influence if not wrest the leadership, thereby making it easier for them to redirect and manipulate the group toward the CPP designs and objectives.

The two common methods they use are: 1) Fielding cadres or sympathizers to run for key positions, and 2) winning over to their side those who are already holding key positions. Once a target groups falls under its control, it becomes a convenient tool for the party's agitation-propaganda drives, recruitment of new cadres and for subverting other groups. Toward this end, CPP elements have proved very adroit in injecting the party objectives in a particular organization in the guise of serving the interests of its members and the country in general.

The Legal Struggle

Significantly, the CPP recently recognized the need to intensify the legal struggle as a complement to and further advance the insurgent effort in the countryside. A CPP directive issued in 1983 called for the intensification of the open mass movement which includes the formation of a broad legal alliance with the various sectoral and opposition groups as part of its United Front building.

Mass Action-Exploitation of Opposition Groups

Another CPP memorandum stressed that the party considers the rash of mass actions initiated by the political opposition as an integral part of the overall revolutionary struggle. It believes that if the open mass movement can exploit opposition activities such as rallies, noise barrages, and confetti-throwing, the armed struggle being waged in the countryside will be benefitted since it will give an impression that the party is gaining considerable popular support. Thus, CPP cadres have been instructed to take maximum propaganda advantage of these activities. Party leaders, however, have cautioned their members that these elements are only temporary tactical allies in the CPP's overall strategy to overthrow the government. They believe that the opposition is only against the government program of the CPP.

Although the CPP/NPA [New People's Army] has registered gains in strength and firearms, it has also suffered losses. AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] operations in the last few years have resulted in the neutralization of many significant insurgent leaders at various levels. Today, the party is encountering difficulties in replacing these neutralized leaders. It has yet to fill up positions in the five territorial commissions it has created for northern, central and southern Luzon, the Visayas, and Mindanao. Of those five commissions, only the Mindanao commission and lately, the Visayas commission are apparently functioning, although to a limited degree, because the regional party committees continue to display wide latitudes of independence and conduct regional activities individually.

Moreover, since January 1984, the number of mass protest activities, as well as participants have tapered off. Apparently, the CPP effort to politicize the broad masses of the people toward more violent mass actions are beginning to be negatively received.

The CPP remains to be the major threat to our national security. On the whole, however, the party, while having made gains in manpower and firearms strength, has also suffered qualitative losses. Since 1982, at least 119 key leaders have been neutralized, including 10 central committee members. The total is broken down into 19 in 1982, 28 in 1983, and 72 in 1984. The areas where the insurgents operate as well as the number of barangays affected by insurgent activities have remained substantially the same these last two years.

Admittedly, recent events in the country have complicated our task of containing the communist threat. Recent economic difficulties have imposed financial constraints on the government and created conditions favorable to the rise of social unrest. This is complicated by the fact that some members of the media play-up and sensationalize issues which tend to discredit and put the government in a bad light; this fanning the flames of discontent and arousing anti-government sentiments among the people.

It is, therefore, necessary for all sectors of society to join hands in putting up a strong concerted effort to counter the communist challenge. For as long as we are disunited and uncoordinated in our efforts, the subversive terrorists will always find ways to exploit our weaknesses to serve their own interests.

The counterinsurgency and counter-subversion efforts are not just those of the Armed Forces or that of the government alone. Since the problem affects the overall political, social, and economic well-being of our people, it therefore necessitates the involvement of all sectors including the private sectors if we are to preserve our democratic way of life against a movement that seeks to impose a godless ideology and totalitarianism upon our people.

CSO: 4200/933

PHILIPPINES

PAPER SAYS DAVAO AREA TESTING GROUND FOR GUERRILLA WARFARE

HK141013 Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 27 Apr 85 p 4

[Editorial: "The Situation Demands New Approaches"]

[Text] What we are witnessing today is the emergence of an entirely new situation confronting our old, traditional thinking. We are facing an entirely different situation, which has a multifaceted structure, defying our conventional attitudes and responses. It appears that Region XI has been chosen as a testing ground for the Maoist theory of guerrilla warfare. At the vortex of this developing situation is the obvious attempt to encircle and strangle the regional center which is Davao City.

Most of our citizens, concerned only with their own safety and interests, do not realize the crucial struggle going on around them. As a matter of fact, most of our public officials also do not realize the implications of the situation, hence their actions and reactions are still the same routine, stereotypical reactions, coupled with the same bureaucratic mentality and a lot of red tape.

The people, especially those in the critical areas, are in the meanwhile caught in a tight fix between the insurgents and the military forces. The fate of the innocent civilians should be the primary concern of the government authorities, whether military or civil. If only to sustain their faith in government, efforts must be exerted to avoid violations of civil and human rights especially during military operations.

This kind of warfare, which could escalate unless properly handled, is being fought in at least two levels--in the fields, the hills and mountains, in the forests, in depressed areas and in the hearts and minds of the masses. The more critical aspects, to our thinking, is the latter because it is in the hearts and minds where the decisive human factor will prevail in the long run.

Hence, it is quite important that our officialdom should realize that the old, routine ways of coping with situations will no longer suffice. We must respond with wisdom and courage with vision and with sincerity and dedication. Otherwise, our way of life will collapse, sooner or later, in the face of a determined enemy.

CSO: 4200/933

PHILIPPINES

DAVAO PAPER GIVES BACKGROUND ON ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

HK140635 Davao City SAN PEDRO EXPRESS in English 22 Apr 85 p 2

[Text] The governments of the Philippines and the United States signed the amended RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement of 1947 on 7 January 1979, providing for, among other things, bases rentals in the amount of \$200 million for the fiscal years 1980-1984.

The United States prefers to call the money "economic assistance for the country".

The two governments further agreed to utilize the proceeds of the fund in financing priority projects of the government. Special focus was on the development of the reverted baseland areas and to appropriate social amelioration programs for the areas surrounding the U.S. bases.

The fund is administered by a Cabinet-level Economic Support Fund Council (ESFC) created under LOI [Letter of Instruction] 1030 as amended by LOI 1434. The council is headed by the ministers of finance, trade and industry, budget, national defense, economic planning, food and agriculture, public works and highways, labor and the presidential legal assistance as members.

The development strategy is presented in three programs: the municipal development, the regional development program and the national support services development program (NSSDP).

The municipal development program (MPD) is directed at improving the economic and social conditions of the localities where the effects of U.S. military personnel and facilities are most felt.

The beneficiaries of MPD assistance are areas surrounding Clark Air Base in Pampanga; Tarlac in relation to the Camp O'Donnell gunnery range; Baguio City and La Trinidad in Benguet near the vicinity of the John Hay Air Station; San Fernando in La Union near Wallace Air Station; Zambales and Morong in Bataan in relation to the Subic Naval Base; and areas surrounding the San Miguel naval communications station.

ESF said public enterprises' projects which are revenue generating are generally provided with a combination of loan and grant financing.

The financing terms for the loan funds are 15-25 years repayment with a maximum grace period of two years or principal amortizations, nine percent per annum and a semi-annual repayment schedule.

In most cases, beneficiary cities and municipalities are required to provide counterpart contributions in the form of land, site development costs, demolition costs and detailed architectural and engineering costs.

The regional development program originally known as reverted baseland development program, has retained its basis for seeing to the socio-economic uplift of the marginal communities in the reverted baselands and in the six provinces of Central Luzon, namely Bataan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac and Zambales where the majority of bases are located.

Projects incorporated into the program are export processing zones, public markets, provincial roads, school buildings equipped with basic learning facilities, hospitals and resettlement projects.

Interests and grace periods and terms of the loans are determined based on the financial capability of the implementing local agency.

The NSSDP directs its efforts at national concerns such as education, transport, food, and energy, and spreading of ESF allocation to a wider national base.

Under the first ESF package, 39 public markets sites have been identified based on selection criteria. Three public markets have started construction --Urdaneta public market in Pangasinan, Dumaguete public market in Negros, and the Kabankalan public market also in Negros.

The NSSDP also projects to develop alternative and indigenous sources of energy for the countryside.

A three-component project, the rural development project involves the following:

- The installation of wood-fired gasifiers to convert diesel-driven pumps in an irrigation system into a combined producer gas and diesel fuel operations;

- The expansion of the production of charcoal for household and industrial use;

- The development of tree farms to eventually fuel three wood-fired power plants in the Visayas to be the main source of energy in the area.

CSO: 4200/933

PHILIPPINES

OPPOSITION PAPER REPORTS OVERPRICING OF RICE

HK150057 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 9 May 85 p 3

[Text] With the announced lifting of price controls on rice still five months away, prices of the commodity have begun to go beyond the price ceilings still in effect, reportedly with tacit approval from the government.

This was reported yesterday by the official PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY [PNA] even as it said National Food Authority [NFA] Administrator Jesus Tanchanco has urged discipline among grains businessmen to prepare for the eventual deregulation of rice by October.

The PNA said a survey of major Manila markets revealed that regularly milled rice with a price ceiling of P[Peso]6 per kilo is selling at P6.20 while the overmilled types [words unclear] of the Confederation of Rice and Corn Association (Confed), told PNA that traders had received the tacit approval of the NFA to sell beyond the ceiling price.

But Ramon de Jesus, grains marketing director of the NFA, denied this and said that the NFA had only allowed itself to be liberal with the premium grain rice with a high percentage head content which may be sold at deregulated prices.

He reiterated Tanchanco's appeal to traders to discipline themselves in selling these deregulated grains by taking into account a reasonable profit margin and their social responsibilities to consumers.

De Jesus also said price violations have been observed only in recent weeks and resulted in the apprehension of 10 traders in metro Manila in just one day's enforcement operation.

CSO: 4200/933

5 June 1985

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS OFFICIALS RETIRE--Comelec [Commission on Elections] Chairman Vicente Santiago Jr and Commissioners Domingo Pabalate and Noli Sagadraca retired from their posts yesterday [16 May]. Santiago and Pabalate retired after serving their full 7-year terms, while Sagadraca served for 4 years. Under the Constitution, members of the Comelec will serve for 7 years. The 7-year tenure includes services in lesser capacities. Santiago had served for 2 years as Comelec commissioner and 5 years as chairman. President Marcos accepted Santiago's retirement bid and cited him for his statesmanship. It is still not known who will be named to succeed Santiago, Pabalate, and Sagadraca in their vacated posts. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 16 May 85 HK]

ARMED FORCES RESERVISTS DEFERRED--President Marcos yesterday ordered the postponement of the 1985 mandatory registration of reservists of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) until 1988. In Executive Order 1025, the President said that the records of the reservists of the AFP were updated in May 1982 and another registration in May this year would be superfluous. The president said that a substantial amount of money could be saved and rechanneled for use in the priority action programs of the government. The mandatory registration is provided for in Presidential Decree 183, as amended by Presidential Decree 887, which calls for the compulsory registration of all AFP reservists every three years for the purpose of updating the records of the armed forces. [Text] [Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 12 May 85 p 2 HK]

DECREASES IN CONSUMER PRICES--President Marcos announced yesterday that substantial decreases in consumer prices all over the country last month indicated that inflation has abated. The president, citing the report by Economic Planning Minister Vicente B. Valdepenas, Jr., said the Consumer Price Index (CPI) declined in April by 48 index points compared with the price index in March. As a result of the drop in consumer prices, the inflation rate further dropped by 2.75 percentage points from 39.79 percent in March to 37 percent in April, the president said. He said the decline in consumer prices could be attributed to the second rollback in petroleum prices in March and the good harvest of fruits and vegetables. [Excerpt] [Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 12 May 85 pp 1, 5]

CSO: 4200/933

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT WARNS AGAINST ARMS SMUGGLING--The government yesterday warned it would take severe action against anyone, whether a Singaporean or foreigner, who illegally tranships arms through Singapore. This is regardless of which country the weapons are shipped to or whom they are intended for. A Home Affairs Ministry statement on the detention of Singaporeans Shankar Gopal and William Tan Cheng Siew said their arms smuggling activities had complicated Singapore's relations with the countries concerned. Their actions were also prejudicial to the interest and security of Singapore. [Text] [Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English 12 May 85 p 1 BK]

ARMS SMUGGLING TO MADRAS--The internal Security Department has detained two Singaporeans for smuggling a cache of arms and explosives to Madras, a consignment believed to be for separatist guerrillas in Sri Lanka. The shipment of rifles, sten guns, bullets and explosives, hidden among three tonnes of waste paper, left here in a container on board the "Sea Express." It was uncovered by suspicious Indian Customs officers on 3 April after it arrived in Madras. Detained under the Internal Security Act are trader Shankar Gopal, 28, of Winstedt Drive and the managing director of a boat quay freight transport firm, William Tan Cheng Siew, 53, of Telok Blangah Rise. They were among a number of Singaporeans arrested. The rest are understood to have been released. [Excerpt] [Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English 12 May 85 p 1 BK]

CSO: 4200/956

THAILAND

DAILY ON STAND ON U.S. EMBARGO AGAINST NICARAGUA

BK090125 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 9 May 85 p 3

[Text] Thailand is unlikely to criticize the U.S. for its imposition of an economic embargo against Nicaragua when the matter is taken by the UN Security Council, an informed source in the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

The source said Thailand does not want to antagonize the U.S. over the issue. "The economic embargo is essentially a bilateral problem between the U.S. and Nicaragua. We do not want to get involved," the source said.

Thailand supports a proposal by the so-called Contadora group for a settlement of the conflict in Central America through peaceful means.

The Reagan administration imposed the economic embargo on Nicaragua after Congress turned down a request for U.S. \$14 million in aid to the rebels seeking to overthrow the government in Managua.

Nicaraguan Ambassador to the United Nations Javier Chamorro early this week met with President of the UN Security Council M. L. Phiraphong Kasemsi of Thailand to ask for an urgent meeting of the council on what it called "economic aggression" by the U.S. with its trade embargo.

"The Thais will listen to what Nicaragua has to say," the source said.

Thailand has no diplomatic relations with Nicaragua.

Thailand currently has the chairmanship of the UN Security Council after winning a seat in the council last year.

CSO: 4200/950

THAILAND

OFFICER VIEWS SRV INCURSIONS, CAMBODIAN ISSUE

BK050202 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 5 May 85 p 2

[Text] Deputy Army Chief-of-Staff Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday sought to play down the security threats that the Kampuchean conflict posed on Thailand.

"We should not air our concerns out of proportion," the senior army official told a gathering of about 100 social workers at the Convention Hall, Ambassador Hotel.

Lt Gen Chawalit said that at least, in the short run, we perceived no external threat towards Thailand.

"I cannot say about the distant future, but I don't think our external enemy has any design to invade Thailand in the near future," he said.

He also said that the conflict in Kampuchea is essentially one between socialist states and therefore, they are not expected to drag countries outside "the family" into the dispute.

However, Lt Gen Chawalit said that the Kampuchean conflict affected Thailand in the sense that Vietnamese troops occasionally crossed the Kampuchean border into Thai territory. Another repercussion is the influx of Khmer people into Thailand for temporary shelter, he said.

"So, we must try to promote a political solution of the Kampuchean conflict as soon as possible because we want to end the negative repercussions from the fighting on our country," he said.

The senior army official said that both the government and the military never regarded Vietnam as an enemy; otherwise, the Thai efforts to solve the problem would have taken a different form.

He said Thailand has to be involved in the conflict as a member in the world community because she has a duty to see to it that every country respects the international rules of the United Nations.

"If we don't care about whatever other countries would do, then there will be no rules governing relations among countries. Hence, we must stand by the UN resolutions calling upon Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea. This is the only thing that makes it seem that we are confronting with Vietnam," he said.

THAILAND

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS FOR ITALY, HUNGARY, U.S.

BK130938 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 13 May 85

["News in Perspective" program]

[Text] Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila left here yesterday for Italy as part of a 2-week tour which will also take him to Hungary and the United States.

Thailand and Italy have been enjoying a long tradition of bilateral trade. The 2-way trade volume between the two countries is by far the fifth largest in the European community. The bilateral trade has expanded steadily during the past 6 years and involves a vast variety of products. Since 1978, the growth rate of the 2-way trade has climbed at the rate of 8 percent annually.

Given the importance of trade ties with Italy, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi will certainly seek Italian cooperation in importing more Thai goods, such as tapioca, textile, and frozen marine products, which have been the key export items of Thailand. Air Chief Marshal Sitthi's trip is also aimed at discussing with the Italian leaders the establishment of standard procedure of examinations to solve problems which occur from time to time concerning frozen marine products for export.

Since Italy has always enjoyed a trade surplus with Thailand except in 1977 and 1982, the trend this year will be again in Italy's favor. Air Chief Marshal Sitthi will urge Italy to further open its market for Thai goods, particularly agricultural products, jewelry, handicrafts, and local woven products. The main barrier has been the lack of publicity campaigns on the part of the Thai side to promote the sales of Thai exports. While Thailand's competitors maintain trade offices in Italy, the companies here still rely on information supplied by Bangkok.

Thai officials said that they were not so optimistic as regards to agricultural products because Italy has produced similar items, but for the market share for Thai jewelry and woven products, the future is bright.

On the political front, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi will express Thailand's gratitude for Italy's consistent support for ASEAN on the Kampuchean issue and for the Thai candidacy for a nonpermanent member of the United Nations Security

Council. Italy was the first country to declare support of Thailand's candidacy. Air Chief Marshal Sitthi will also take this opportunity to brief his Italian counterpart on the latest development along the Thai-Kampuchean border and the current Vietnamese dry season offensive against the Khmer resistance forces along the border. Thailand has been very grateful for the generous financial support from the Italian Government and various religious organizations for the Kampuchean refugees living inside Thailand.

During the trip, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi is scheduled to meet with Italian President Mr Pertini and Prime Minister Mr Bettino Craxi. Furthermore, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi will hold a separate discussion with heads of the Food and Agriculture Organization and World Food Program about their activities in this region.

After Italy, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi will pay a 3-day visit to Hungary, his first visit to an Eastern European country. Besides meeting with Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi will also pay a courtesy call on the president and the prime minister of that country. The Thai delegation will urge their Hungarian counterparts for more direct trade between the two parties and ways and means to establish a system of exchange of information on trade commodities of interest. During his visit, there will be an exchange of documents on the agreement on science and technical cooperation signed earlier last year.

Air Chief Marshal Sitthi will arrive in New York on 19 May, where he is scheduled to deliver a speech when he chairs a meeting of the UN Security Council. He will also deliver a keynote speech at the Council for Foreign Affairs in New York. He will visit Washington between 24 and 26 May to meet with high-level officials from the Pentagon and State Department, including Secretary of State George Shultz and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, on matters of mutual interest before flying home to Bangkok on 28 May.

CSO: 4200/949

THAILAND

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES INFLUX OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

BK050254 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 5 May 85 p 3

[Excerpt] Khlong Yai District, Trat--While Vietnamese authorities declared that any Vietnamese caught trying to flee the country will be shot, Vietnamese boat people from Kampuchean port towns are flowing into Thailand by disembarking at the seashore here.

Rangsan Nunphakdi, a district chief, told THE NATION that 146 Vietnamese refugees have fled into this border district by boats since the beginning of this year and they are now sheltered in the compound of a district office.

He said the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is providing food, clothes and other necessities to the Vietnamese refugees in Khlong Yai and Muang districts.

Most of the Vietnamese refugees, who entered Thailand by boats, fled across Kampuchean inland to Kompong Som and Koh Kong, Kampuchean port towns, and paid Kampuchean fishermen or Thai smugglers in order to bring them to the Thai coast, according to Rangsan.

Thai officials said it is very difficult to crack down the smuggling by boats along the seashore here because the shore is very long and the smugglers hold dual citizenship.

"They can enter any Kampuchean port towns without being arrested by the Vietnamese soldiers and the Vietnamese seem to permit them to smuggle goods into Kampuchea," they said.

Rangsan said small groups of refugees, from 2-10 persons, arrived here in small boats at different intervals in January, and all of them are well to do people who are used to living comfortably and cannot stand the hardship under the communist regime detected by Vietnam.

"All these refugees have relatives living in countries such as USA, Canada and Australia so they want to join them and spend the rest of their lives in the modern world," he said. Rangsan also said the refugees will soon be sent to the holding centre for the Vietnamese refugees in Sikiew District of Nakhon Ratchasima which is run by the UNHCR. According to relief officials, about 4,000 Vietnamese refugees are residing in Sikiew holding center.

THAILAND

DAILY HOPES 'COUP SYNDROME' WILL END PERMANENTLY

BK070313 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 7 May 85 p 4

[Editorial: "'Coups Syndrome' Just Will Not Go Away"]

[Text] Time was when the talk about a coup d'etat, and sometimes its occurrence, was seasonal, almost like the monsoon. But of course getting out of a 'coups syndrome' is easier said than done. Old-timers may relish talk of a coup but that has been promptly denied by Deputy Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan but then again the old-timers will say: "There is no smoke without fire."

The talk about a coup stemmed from Deputy Army Chief-of-Staff Lt Gen Chawalit when he said that the possibility of a coup d'etat cannot be ruled out although he did mention that he saw no conditions conducive to the dissolution of the House of Representatives. "There are objective conditions that could lead to a coup," he said, "but then whether it will be staged or not, depends upon subjective assessment."

The 'objective conditions' he was referring to related to the no-confidence motion tabled by the opposition Chat Thai Party against the Prem Tinsulanon Government. Chawalit feared that may drive a wedge into national unity. He was also referring to the decree banning chit funds, later approved in the House by a big majority, in which several people were victimized. But both Chawalit and Thianchai said that the government had no recourse but to ban the pyramid money games.

As for the no-confidence motion, the Chat Thai Party might have gone a little far because the House and the Senate are not going to oust the present government but the opposition is actually playing a responsible role because the financial and economic policies of the government need to be critically scrutinized by the House. We do not think that such a debate will in any way hurt the government if they can come up with the right answers and are able to justify the action that has been taken in implementing its fiscal and economic policies.

Despite the abortive April Fools Day coup of 1981 and which was actually what its name implied, we had reckoned that the coup of 1977, which made Gen

Kriangsak Chamanan the prime minister, was the coup to end all coups. In that coup a highly unpopular civilian 'dictatorship' was overthrown and, unlike many who came to power after coups, Kriangsak kept the time-table he had promised and conducted elections putting together a constitutional coalition government under his stewardship and, when the time came, he gracefully stepped down handing over the country's top political post to Gen Prem.

Gen Chawalit's fears that the censure motion by Chat Thai will be a danger to national unity are completely unfounded since the debate may provide important answers to questions which the public are asking. The House is a more authoritative forum than the press to debate such issues like devaluation, tax restructuring, etc., that directly concern the public. While we commend Gen Thianchai for shooting down any rumour that might have started, we do wish the 'coup syndrome' in Thailand will go away permanently.

CSO: 4200/950

THAILAND

NINE ARRESTED IN RAID ON COMMUNIST CAMP

BK130655 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 13 May 85 p 5

[Text] Nakhon Si Thammarat--A combined government security force of about 400 raided a communist camp in this southern city and arrested nine communist suspects, a senior provincial police officer said yesterday.

Pol Col Yutthana Thaiphakdi, the provincial police chief, said that the combined security force drawn from provincial and border patrol police in Trang, Krabi, Phatthalung and Nakhon Si Thammarat was mobilized on Saturday night to attack and subsequently occupy a big communist insurgents' camp in Tambon Nop Phitam, Ta Sala District.

Yutthana said that after a brief small-arms clash, security forces were able to occupy the stronghold and arrest all nine insurgents inside the camp including their leader, identified as Noi Suchiwong.

He said that Noi was on the police wanted list because he had been demanding protection fees from various local stone grinding factories.

CSO: 4200/950

THAILAND

PREM CONFIRMS REPORT ON NAVY SHIPS' SMUGGLING

BK080955 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 8 May 85 pp 1, 3

[Text] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon this morning confirmed a Customs Department report alleging that seven Royal Thai Navy (RTN) vessels had been involved in smuggling.

Speaking in his capacity as defense minister, Gen Prem told reporters at Government House that legal action would be taken accordingly.

The smuggling report came to Gen Prem's attention after the Customs Department sent a report to the Finance Ministry implicating seven RTN ships in illegal activities on their return from a training exercise.

The report identified five of the seven ships as the "HMS Prasae," "HMS Phuket," "HMS Witthayakhom," "HMS Si Rattana" and "HMS Hanhak Phairi." The names of two others were unavailable.

The ships, the report claimed, had smuggled cars and spare parts of electrical appliances and canned food which had later been sent for storage at the Naval Staff College, the Sattahip naval dockyard and the Naval Quartermaster Division.

The Customs Department had reportedly urged the Finance Ministry to send a senior official to raise the issue with the RTN.

The department at the same time sent a request to the RTN, seeking permission to allow Customs Officials to inspect all its ships returning from trips abroad.

Finance Minister Sommai Huntrakun said so far that no arrests had been made nor had any goods been confiscated but the Customs Department had evidence and photographs to support its claim.

He said that the department had notified the commanders of the seven ships to ask their subordinates to declare the smuggled items and pay Customs duties.

Mr Sommai said, however, that no cars were brought in by the ships, adding that most of the goods were electrical appliances and video tape players.

He said that the Finance Ministry would act according to the law and regulations and there would be no exceptions.

However, stern action would not be taken and the navy would be consulted, he added.

Asked whether this matter had damaged the reputation of the navy, Mr Sommai said that this was a matter for the navy itself to clear up.

Navy Commander-in-Chief Nippon Sirithon, during a telephone interview last night, categorically denied the allegation, saying that it was impossible for any officer to smuggle cars into the country since naval ships returning from recent trips were all small.

However, Adm Nippon this morning reportedly called a meeting with all officers concerned.

Last night he said navy officers in charge of ships were required by regulations to report to their superiors articles they had brought into the country so that the Customs tariffs could be calculated and collected by the department.

He said each naval officer was restricted by law and allowed to bring in only two bottles of whiskey and a carton of cigarettes.

Adm Nippon denied having any knowledge about a Customs Department's request for permission for Customs officials to inspect naval ships on their return home.

"They have never made any such request. They used to only ask us to urge committees to speed up Customs clearances since we always have a list of items which will have to be declared for Customs duties."

"The navy has strictly abided by the law," Adm Nippon said.

CSO: 4200/949

THAILAND

3 KILLED IN BURIRAM ACTIONS AGAINST VIETNAMESE

BK110919 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 11 May 85 p 32

[Text] Three soldiers died and three were injured on the O Bok Mountain Pass in Buriram Province in two incidents yesterday and this morning, according to military reports.

Two army sergeants were killed in the first incident yesterday morning when they stepped on a landmine while in pursuit of Vietnamese forces in the southern part of O Bok Pass in Tambon Prasat of Ban Kruat District.

The report said that Sgt Chammong Homsila, 28, and Sgt Phonsak Hotkhunthot, 29, were leading a column of soldiers on patrol along the border when they spotted a number of Vietnamese soldiers.

The patrolmen engaged in a gun fight in the rain with the intruders, after which the Vietnamese retreated.

The Thai soldiers gave chase and Sgt Phonsak stepped on a landmine which blew off both his legs and killed him on the spot.

Sgt Chammong tried to move the body of Sgt Phonsak from the area, but as he was carrying the body, he stepped on another landmine and died at the scene, said the report.

The two dead bodies were recovered four hours later, said the report.

A third unidentified soldier was killed at 8 a.m. today in a clash between a Thai patrol unit and introducing Vietnamese troops. Three other soldiers were also reported wounded in the fighting.

CSO: 4200/949

THAILAND

PILGRIMS TO SAUDI ARABIA 'DUPED' BY SEPARATISTS

BK060127 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 May 85 p 3

[Text] Saudi Arabia has deported 775 Thai Muslims arrested on charges of working without permits, an informed source said yesterday.

The source said the departed workers were natives of the four southernmost provinces who had been duped into buying bogus work permits from an outlawed southern separatist movement, the Pattani United Liberation Organisation (PULO).

The source said the 735 Thai Muslims were rounded up and deported last March and that Saudi authorities were planning more arrests.

According to the source, the National Security Council (NSC) last month informed the Fourth Army Region of the arrest and deportation of the 735 Muslim residents of Satun, Yala, Narathiwat and Pattani Provinces who went to Saudi Arabia as pilgrims.

The NSC said the PULO had lied to the Muslims that those who went on a pilgrimage to Mecca could obtain work in Saudi Arabia with the help of a PULO branch in the Arab holy city if they were willing to pay for work permits, which later turned out to be fakes.

The source said the NSC had also asked the Fourth Army Region to investigate the illegal activities of the PULO.

CSO: 4200/949

THAILAND

ATHIT GUARANTEES SAFETY OF CHIT FUND DEALERS

BK100135 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 May 85 p 1

[Text] Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek yesterday guaranteed the safety of major oil share operators if they come out of hiding and settle payments with clients.

The supreme commander made the statement before a group of public health workers during a lecture on security problems at the Asia Phatthaya Hotel.

"Every one is still giving them a chance to come out and settle the problem. They can't stay in hiding forever," Gen Athit said, in a reference to Chartered Interrection's Manager Ekkayut Anchanbut and Chamoi Thipsø, who went underground some weeks ago.

He said that he had at one time sympathised with Mae Chamoi having to go into hiding, but now it appeared that she had intentionally escaped responsibility by using the government's campaign against chit funds as an excuse.

"I'd like to urge them to re-emerge. I promise to guarantee their safety and they should not be afraid," Gen Athit said.

The supreme commander commented on the chit funds when a female air force officer raised the subject of oil share operators with him during the meeting, saying that a large number of lower-ranking military officers and civilians were suffering serious financial hardships because of the disappearance of Mae Chamoi and others.

Gen Athit said that as a superior officer of the armed forces, he sympathised with all of those who had taken the risk by investing in the oil share pools to try to raise their living standards.

He said he had not been idle on the matter and as the government had so far not filed any charge against Mae Chamoi there was still a chance she would settle the payments, although clients might not get the full amount.

Mae Chamoi and Ekkayuth could not just simply disappear and leave the problem to the government, Gen Athit said. "The money they have taken with them does not belong to them," said Gen Athit, "and they should realise this."

THAILAND

VOFA FEATURE ON RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA

BK090940 Bangiok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 7 May 85

["Special feature" on "Relations Between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Romania"]

[Text] The Socialist Republic of Romania and the Kingdom of Thailand have enjoyed smooth and cordial relations based on mutual understanding and cooperation in different fields and at different levels since the establishment of their diplomatic relations on 1 June 1973. Romania opened its embassy in Bangkok in May 1976 with its ambassador, resident in Dhaka, Bangladesh, also accredited to Thailand. The present Romanian charge d'affaires in Bangkok is Mr (Laday Sanfer), while Thailand has its embassy in Bucharest which was established in September 1980 with Mr Ukrit Duriyaprama as the present resident Thai ambassador in Romania.

Politically, Thailand and Romania are satisfied with their increasing friendly relations. Both share similar views on many issues affecting international peace and security as well as on questions affecting the interests of the developing countries, including the Kampuchean problem in which both have always opposed the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea in violation of the international law and the United Nations Charter.

Romania has supported Thailand's and the ASEAN's efforts to restore Kampuchea's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and neutrality, by political means. It has also recognized the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea as the sole and legitimate representative of the Kampuchean people at the United Nations. Both Romania and Thailand are members of the Group of 77 Developing Countries which believe in strengthening south-south economic and technical cooperation for mutual benefits and attaining of self-sufficiency. They also believe in increasing north-south cooperation which will help [word indistinct] long-term goal of establishing the new economic order.

On bilateral economic and trade relations, Thailand and Romania concluded a trade agreement on 18 February 1978. In July 1978, a joint committee on trade between the two countries was established and the alternative annual ministerial meetings have been convened to provide opportunities for both sides to consult on ways and means of boosting bilateral trade. As for the private sector, an agreement was signed in Bangkok between the Chamber of Commerce of Thailand and the Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 21 February

1980. Thailand also maintains a trade counsellor's office in Bucharest.

Exchanges of visits between leading personalities from both sides have also strengthened friendly ties between Romania and Thailand. These included that of former Thai Foreign Minister Mr Arun Phanuphong to Romania in 1980, Romanian Foreign Minister Mr Stefan Andrei to Thailand in 1981. Representatives from the Thai government visited Romania in 1980, and the representatives from the Romanian Government came to Thailand in 1983.

From 6 to 8 May 1985, the Royal Thai Government and the Thai people will have the opportunity to welcome His Excellency Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania as guest of the Thai Government. He will be accompanied by Mr Alexandru Rosu, minister of state of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation, Mr (Lucien Ragut) secretary of the Council of Ministers, Mr (Nicolai Bydiscu) deputy minister of Machine Building Industry, and Mr Gheorghe Sava deputy minister of the Chemical Industry. The visit will provide an opportunity for the leaders of the two countries to discuss ways and means to promote bilateral cooperation in various fields of mutual concern including the promotion and expansion of trade and investment. It is also a clear indication of the desire of both governments and peoples to strengthen the already cordial friendly relations existing between the two countries.

CSO: 4200/949

THAILAND

BRIEFS

PRC SCIENCE EXCHANGE PROGRAM AGREEMENT--China has agreed to a scientist exchange programme with Thailand, Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan said yesterday. Praphat returned home last night after leading a delegation to China for talks on science and technology co-operation. In relation to the scientific co-operating programme, the Chinese Government will also extend aid to 26 projects this year. The two sides also discussed investment in China by Thai businessmen which is expected to increase in the near future. Praphat said Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila would make an official visit to China on 27 June. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 10 May 85 p 3 BK]

VOFA REVIEWS PRC OFFICIALS TALKS--Tourist officials from China's Yunnan Province held talks with Thai officials Monday on promoting tourism, including the possible opening of an air route between Bangkok and Kunming City in Yunnan. A team of senior Thai tourism authorities recently met with a visiting Chinese delegation, led by deputy director of the Travel and Tourism Bureau of Yunnan Province for negotiations on opening of a Bangkok-Kunming route via the northern Thai city of Chiang Mai. The Bangkok-Beijing route, the only present air link between Thailand and China, opened in 1983. [Text] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 15 May 85 BK]

AID AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN--Japan yesterday signed an agreement for a grant aid that Thai authorities estimate to be around 1,300 million baht to assist in agriculture, education and health projects in Thailand. Director General of the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation Aphilat Osathanon and Director of the Technical Cooperation Division of the Japanese Foreign Ministry Yuki Kikawa co-signed the agreement after two days of extensive annual discussion. The grant covers 15 ongoing technical cooperation package-type projects and two new ones which are water technology development centre and national institute of health project, both in Bangkok. [Excerpts] [Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 15 May 85 p 3 BK]

CSO: 4200/950

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

GDR MEDICAL AID--Phnom Penh, 4 May (BPK)--The GDR solidarity committee has provided the PRK with aid consisting of medicine and medical equipment worth 526,000 marks. This aid was handed over to PRK Health Minister Yit Kimsang on 2 May through Bjorn Plaeus), special representative of the UNICEF to Cambodia. This is the first time that the committee has provided aid through UNICEF. Also this year, the GDR solidarity committee will grant \$1.7 million to UNICEF for Cambodian children and people. [Summary] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 1154 GMT 4 May 85 BK]

AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY DELEGATION--Phnom Penh, 6 May (SPK)--At the invitation of the KPRP, a delegation of the Austrian Communist Party led by Otto Janecek, member of the party Central Committee, arrived in Phnom Penh on 4 May for an official friendship visit to the PRK. It was greeted by Prach Sun, vice chairman of the KPRP Central Committee's External Relations Commission, and other personalities. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 1154 GMT 6 May 85 BK]

PHNOM PENH-HCMC AGREEMENT--Phnom Penh, 9 May (SPK)--A protocol on this year's cooperation between Ho Chi Minh City and Phnom Penh was recently signed in Ho Chi Minh City. Phan Van Khai, vice president of Ho Chi Minh City People's Revolutionary Committee; and Keo Chanda, chairman of Phnom Penh People's Revolutionary Committee, signed the documents. The two sides expressed satisfaction at the development of their cooperation in various fields: exchanges of goods, building of cultural and economic structures, scientific and technical cooperation, and exchanges of visits. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0406 GMT 9 May 85 BK]

DIRECTIVE ON HO BIRTHDAY--Phnom Penh, 14 May (SPK)--A solemn meeting will be organized in Phnom Penh on 19 May to mark the 95th birthday of the late President Ho Chi Minh, known as an eminent leader of the revolution in Vietnam and the Indochinese peninsula and a well known hero who devoted himself completely to the cause of workers' international communist movement and 20th century national liberation movement. The Cambodian-Vietnam Friendship Association will also organize a talk on this occasion. Apart from other meetings and talks in various public services in the capital and the provinces, a photo exhibition on the life and revolutionary work of the president and on Cambodia-Vietnam solidarity is also planned. In a directive relating to this event, the Propaganda and Education Commission of the KPRP Central Committee stresses the role played by President Ho Chi Minh in the liberation of Vietnam and the

struggle of peoples in Cambodia and Laos. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0357 GMT 14 May 85 BK]

LAO TRADE UNIONISTS DEPART--Phnom Penh, 10 May (SPK)--The delegation of the Lao Federation of Patriotic Trade Unions led by Bounthan Phatsaphan, member of the executive committee of the federation, left Phnom Penh on Thursday (9 May) at the end of a 10-day visit to Cambodia. Before its departure, the delegation was received by Mat Lay, chairman of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0410 GMT 10 May 85 BK]

LAO FINANCE MINISTRY DELEGATION--Phnom Penh, 15 May (SPK)--A delegation from the Lao Finance Ministry, led by Deputy Minister Bounlit Khennavong, arrived in Phnom Penh yesterday for an official friendship visit to the PRK. It was greeted on its arrival by PRK Deputy Finance Minister Bun Sam and others. Lao Ambassador to the PRK Thongpeng Souklaseng was also present. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0405 GMT 15 May 85 BK]

EDUCATION MINISTRY MEETING--Phnom Penh, 13 May (SPK)--An interministerial meeting was recently held at the science institute of Phnom Penh to study educational work, preparations for the Khmerization of higher education, and the creation of study committees for various institutes. Education Minister Pen Navouth, Deputy Minister Ek Sam-ol in charge of higher education and professional training, and representatives from various ministries took part in this meeting. Pen Navouth told the meeting that beginning in 1990, higher education in Cambodia will be in the Cambodian language. This is why close cooperation and collaboration among almost all branches of activities are necessary. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 1145 GMT 13 May 85 BK]

CSO: 4219/56

5 June 1985

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

'VOICE OF VIETNAM' LAUNCHES QUIZ FOR LISTENERS

OW141207 Hanoi VNA in English 0757 GMT 14 May 85

[Text] Hanoi, May 14 (VNA)--THE VOICE OF VIETNAM radio has launched a quiz on Vietnam for its foreign listeners on the occasion of the major anniversaries in 1985. The full text of its announcement follows:

Radio THE VOICE OF VIETNAM is holding a competition "What Do You Know About Vietnam?" for foreign listeners. Occasions are the 55th founding anniversary of the Communist Party of Vietnam (February 3), the 10th anniversary of the liberation of South Vietnam (April 30), the 95th birth anniversary of the late President Ho Chi Minh (May 19) and the 40th national day of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (September 2). It is also to mark the 40th founding anniversary of Radio THE VOICE OF VIETNAM. The competition is jointly sponsored by THE VOICE OF VIETNAM and several ministries, branches and localities. All listeners are invited to participate in the competition either as individuals or in groups. The contestants may answer part or all the questions. The answer may be in written form or illustrated with pictures, drawings or in any forms.

The competition began on February 15 and will close on November 30, 1985. The results of the competition will be announced in early 1986.

There will be a special prize, five first prizes, 10 second prizes and 20 third prizes. Besides, every contestant will receive a souvenir.

The questions are as follows:

1. In the 55 years since its founding, the Communist Party of Vietnam has led the Vietnamese people to win five great victories. Name these victories.
2. What do you think are the outstanding virtues of the late President Ho Chi Minh?
3. What do you know about the changes that have taken place over the past ten years in one of the following places: Hanoi, the port city of Haiphong, Ho Chi Minh City, the central province of Quang Nam-Da Nang and the Mekong River delta provinces?

4. Name ten products exported by Vietnam and ten tourist centers in this country.

Your answer should be addressed to the competition board "What Do You Know About Vietnam", Radio THE VOICE OF VIETNAM, 58 Quan SW Street, Hanoi, SRV. Please print your name and address.

By the way, we would like to remind you that the answers to these questions can be found in our radio programs. We hope you will enter the competition.

CSO: 4200/934

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

U.S. SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL CONDEMNED--Hanoi, May 14 (VNA)--The executive committees of the Vietnamese friendship associations with countries in the Middle East/African region at their meeting here today reaffirmed the Vietnamese people's support for the just struggle of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples against the Israeli aggressors and their U.S. supporters. The participants voiced strong indignation at the crimes committed by the U.S.-backed Israeli aggressors against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, which, they said have aggravated the already tense situation in the Middle East/African region. The meeting resolutely demanded that the Israeli aggressors put an immediate end to their crimes against the peoples in the region, respect the basic national rights of the Palestinian people, and return immediately and unconditionally all the Arab territories they have illegally occupied. It also sternly denounced the U.S. administration for supporting the Israeli aggressors in committing serious crimes against the Palestinian, Lebanese, and other Arab peoples. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 14 May 85]

CSO: 4200/934

PARTY ACTIVITIES & GOVERNMENT

ARTICLE COMMEMORATES HO CHI MINH'S BIRTHDAY

OW142222 Hanoi VNA in English 1524 GMT 14 May 85

[Text] Hanoi, May 14 (VNA)--The following is an article written by Hoang Tung, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and carried in the May special issue of NHAN DAN in commemoration of the 95th birthday of President Ho Chi Min (May 19):

For forty years now, Vietnamese of successive generations, from north to south, from the upland to the lowland, have all referred to our great leader as Uncle Ho. Without any doubt, our future generations will continue to call him by this dear name whenever they talk of the initiator of the era of independence and freedom for the nation, the leader of our two wonderful victorious wars of resistance against two big imperialists--France and the United States--which made it possible to take the whole of our country to socialism.

The dear calling of "Uncle" is largely symbolic. People of his generation regard him as their elder brother, people of later generations treat him as their father, and throughout the country, Vietnamese look on him as a dear member of their families.

International friends also call him "Uncle Ho" in their own languages.

Uncle Ho is the fighting symbol of our nation, the symbol of the leaders of the oppressed and exploited nations and classes who have risen and are rising up to throw off the colonial shackles of imperialism, feudalism and capitalism to regain independence and freedom and to build a new life of their own.

In ancient times, many a heroic figure emerged from the liberation struggles of the enslaved masses and their names have been enshrined in the memory of all nations.

In the present era when imperialism has established its capitalist yoke--a new-type slavery--on the whole humankind, the struggle to liberate the world is the last great struggle in human society. Blazing the path for that struggle were the founders of scientific socialism: Karl Marx, Fredrich Engels, and Vladimir Ilich Lenin. They are the perfect symbols of the leaders of the new time.

Inheriting the cause of those founders of the new era, each nation and each revolution have produced their own leaders who embody both the common and particular traits.

Ho Chi Minh was a revolutionary leader in the style of Karl Marx and Lenin, the leader of the liberation struggle of the enslaved with a typically Vietnamese style.

Uncle Ho symbolizes the burning will to liberate the country and the nation, the extraordinary energy of striving toward truth, ideals and intellectual heights of our time, the readiness to accept all trials and sacrifices for the noble historical mission. At the same time, he lived a modest and simple life like any ordinary person and never distanced himself from the people.

Born and growing up after the country had been invaded, many uprisings had failed one after another, and many fighters had given up hope, he determinedly left for abroad to seek a way to save the country and quickly and firmly grasped the truth. He laid down the platform, founded the party and trained cadres in preparation for fundamental conditions: the elements of primordial importance that would ensure the triumph of the revolution.

Uncle Ho was the personification of revolutionary storms. He went through 25 years of underground activity, was twice imprisoned, led one general insurrection and two protracted wars of resistance.

Clear-sighted before major turning points and cool-headed before big trials, his rare qualities shone even more brightly in the midst of turbulence.

The highest leader, Uncle Ho nevertheless cared for the great tasks and ordinary things as well. He did small but necessary things himself, and constantly educated his comrades on this score.

All his life, Uncle Ho lived the life of a revolutionary, making work his joy, reason to live and source of happiness. Thirsty for knowledge, he made reading and exchange of ideas with orders an indispensable part of his daily schedule. Writing for the newspapers and composing verses were also his pleasures. His writings were very plain so that everyone could understand.

He was fond of living close to nature. He dressed simply. His dishes were popular dishes of his homeland. He hated all that was farfetched and luxurious.

He respected old people and loved children.

Uncle Ho was great for his work, his modesty and his principledness. He always upheld the heroic cause of the entire party and people. He wrote much about the examples of heroism of the masses and armymen. He always respected the will of the collective. He constantly cared for educating our cadres and our people about revolutionary virtues, the organizational

principles and the discipline of the party, state laws and obligation of looking after the interests of the people.

Uncle Ho, the symbol of the leaders of the liberation struggle of all oppressed peoples, is a great example for all of us.

CSO: 4200/934

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

LIFE IN REEDUCATION CAMPS DESCRIBED

Paris LIBERATION in French 30 Apr 85 pp 20-21

[Article by Tran Tri Vu: "My 1,632 Days in the Camp"]

[Text] Tran Tri Vu spent four and a half years of his life in the reeducation camps. He tells the tale of that period, punctuated by self-accusation sessions, the exhausting search for food and the threat of death. The following are excerpts from his account.

Reeducation had already gone on for a month. We were exhausted. We had to stay in the classroom or our hut for entire days participating in discussions or writing reports on the results obtained. There was little time for physical exercise. Although our diet had improved, we had all grown thin. When we learned that we would have to rewrite the stories of our past lives in the light of our reeducation that had provided us with "new concepts and another logic," we all had the feeling that we were in for a bad surprise.

We were in fact surprised when the instructor explained that we would have to do this time. In addition to our personal history, we also had to make a political evaluation of each of the members of our family and all our actions in the past. Finally, our report would be read before the group in order to have "constructive criticism," meaning that the members of the group "would help us" by making accusations so that "each one might see more clearly the crimes he has committed."

In giving information about the members of our families, we were to denounce their guilt. For example, if I mentioned that my grandfather had been a district official, I had to add that he was a member of the "feudal" class. My father, who was a teacher during the French colonial period, had to be considered as an intellectual and therefore, a "lackey of the French colonialists." Another example of social classification was: "If you say that your father is a peasant, you must indicate whether he belongs to the class of landowners -- those who own their own rice paddies or poor farm workers -- or those who work the land for a landowner."

The cadres who supervised the drafting of our reports constantly warned us about the threatening consequences of the three copies we had to produce. One would be sent to our place of birth, another to our address or our former

employer and the last one to our government. Officials in each of those places would verify their veracity or discover inaccuracies or what was left out. Many of us had to rewrite our tales several times out of fear of being accused of lying. The whole affair was a real nightmare and it continued even after the writing was finished. The report had to be read in front of the whole group and the group would rule on the sincerity of the author or his refusal to admit guilt. Entire mornings were devoted to such readings and sessions of criticism. One could go through three a session maximum. At the end of every session, all the remarks and criticisms had to be written down on a piece of paper that was attached to the report.

Some were so cooperative that they did not hesitate to accuse their comrades of trying to conceal their rank in order to minimize their culpability. The mutual accusation sessions were obviously used to incite us to seek the favors of the revolution. I had never imagined that reeducation could involve such degradation (...). Never before had I been forced into such a strange act as judging my own parents and grandparents, of classifying them socially, of accusing myself of crimes of which I had not the slightest idea. But once it was all over, we not free of the fear of being accused of having made false statements or of seeking to conceal crimes.... Many became almost obsessed and began to behave like animals. Some complained to anyone who would hear them: "My crimes are so great that it will be difficult for the revolution to pardon me (...)."

Trang Lon, near Tay Ninh, had been a big military base. The team in charge of distributing rations, after counting the number of other teams of the same type, thought that over 22,000 officers lived in the camp. We had begun by clearing the areas around our huts. After a few weeks, the cleared area stretched as far as the barbed wire barriers. There were many shells lying everywhere. That day, I was working on furniture in the carpentry shop when I heard an explosion. A half hour later, I saw one of our comrades being taken to the infirmary. I learned that while working, he had struck an M79 shell. Such shells rarely failed to go off on impact, but those that had not went off at the slightest jolt. The victim lost an arm and a piece of shrapnel had struck him in the forehead. He died instantly. He was the first victim of Trang Lon. For me, it was also the discovery of the way in which the soldiers treated the dead. They waited for their officer to arrive on the scene to observe the death. The officer then gave the order to wrap him in a piece of cloth and to bury him immediately. It was all over before the noon meal (...).

"I'm Leaving"

The next day, while I was again working, I heard shouts, then a big commotion. I hurried out and fell upon a terrifying scene. One burned body was lying on the ground, still in flames. Smoke enveloped the body and the air had the sickening stench of burned grease. They told me that the dead person was Bi, the pharmacist. He had apparently gone crazy after finishing his self-criticism, had kept all the powder and the packing he had been able to find while cleaning, piled it up and sat on it. Then he asked the people around him to clean up: "Goodbye, my friends; I'm leaving!" Everyone thought he was joking, but no one had seen the lighted fuse he had in his hand and with

which he set fire to the pile of powder. The latter immediately went up in flames. His companions rushed toward him, but he was already a living torch by the time they got there (...).

The soldiers hurried to the place where we had gathered. They scattered us, telling us to go back to our work and then firing into the air. Next, a crew of soldiers arrived, wrapped the remains in a poncho and took them to the infirmary. Shortly thereafter, some of us received orders to go bury him (...).

We got up early. The sky was still dark. We busied ourselves burning a pile of leaves and plants, which was not an easy task. The wood and the soil were damp. The thick smoke given off by the fire suffocated us and made us cough. After finishing, our eyes were red and we were sweating. The youngest ones were constantly swearing, stirring up the fire and blowing on it. We did not wash after finishing the job and then had to go get our daily ration: half a bowl of rice and a handful of dried manioc, cut into little slices. The manioc, which had not been properly processed, had molded and gave off a sickening smell. It was cooked with a pinch of salt, but it stuck in my throat when I tried to swallow it. Those sick to the stomach preferred to do without it (...).

Since we were weaker and weaker, the soldiers and even the group leaders became harsher and harsher. They were obsessed by the drop in productivity. For our part, eating had become the only thing on earth that counted.... We had reached a point where no one could manage to gather enough grass, leaves or roots to fill our stomachs. No one dared to eat his ration. In the morning, we could scratch out just enough to have the strength to get to the fields. When we arrived, we would have another mouthful and did the same every hour. At noon, everything was gone and we would start looking for leaves and roots. The soldiers, who knew that it was the only way we had of feeding ourselves, closed their eyes. Our evening meal and that of the next morning depended on the results of our noon gathering (...).

After two months of clearing, the number of sick had increased considerably. Every morning at roll call, every hut had people in bed. The nurse who came to examine them saw that they were truly in bad condition. None of us wanted to stay in the camp, for we would not have a chance to be able to get wild plants and roots to improve our rations. The sick received only two half bowls of rice soup; they were still hungry when they finished the two bowls.

The plots of jungle that we had cleared had turned white in the sun. The camp commander then ordered us to burn. That is when we saw the results of our poorly done work. When we set fire to the cleared areas, only the dead leaves burned. The branches that we had set in the sun and that were not dead did not catch fire. We had to go back in the half-burned clearing to get rid of the shrubs completely and the branches were sometimes as thick as your finger. The sun was a torture. Every wind blew up clouds of ashes (...). Our bodies covered with sweat made us look like skeletal ghosts, dressed in rags and blackened by coal dust. The hunger, exhaustion, filth and itching it caused drove us nearly crazy. I tried to remain calm, but many of my comrades swore all the while they worked and the nervous tension rose to a pitch,

"Aim at My Head"

One day, one of the prisoners piled up the branches he had just cut near the foot of a big tree. The branches were quite dry and from a distance, resembled a bird's nest. We had orders to gather the branches cut against the trunk of the trees so as to set fire to the shoots along with the dead wood. In principle, we were supposed to wait for orders to set fire to the pile of branches. The order generally came just before the rest periods because when fire had been set to each pile, the flames raged so and the heat was so intense that remaining nearby was impossible. Using a torch, we set fire to the base of our pile of dead wood, then ran as far away as possible. That day, we had proceeded as we always did, but several prisoners said they had heard shouts coming from the direction of the burning stakes. After our rest, we returned to examine the results of our labor. It was a frightful scene. In the middle of the still burning coals was a twisted, half roasted body. The stench of burning flesh made one want to vomit. The body was in the midst of the coals. He must have built the stake for himself, climbed up on the stump and jumped in.

We informed the soldiers of what had happened. They had nothing to say other than to advise us to be careful and not let such a "work accident" happen again. The camp commander sent a soldier to verify the facts, then had the body wrapped in plastic. He was buried in a remote corner at the foot of a nearby hill. In camp, life became increasingly difficult.

We were not so different from animals, constantly covered with fleas and ticks. We worked so hard that we did not even feel like scratching, but as soon as we could rest a minute and especially when we went to bed, we had to get undressed and go after the parasites that had taken up residence in our clothing. The most painful thing was the gnats that constantly attacked our eyes.

Some of us could no longer hide our rebellion. One day, one of the guards, a fanatical looking soldier, aimed his gun at the chest of a prisoner, threatening to shoot him. The man begged him: "Comrade, please shoot me in the head. I would rather die than to continue living like this. Take me to the edge of the road before shooting. You can say that you had to shoot me because I was trying to escape. But aim at my head so that I will die immediately." The soldier was furious, but did not know what to do. He lowered his AK and pretended to hit the prisoner. "Go back to work," he said, turning around. "You are talking like a lunatic."

Battle of Figures on Vietnamese Prisoners

According to the Vietnamese authorities, there are only 7,000 persons arrested since 1975 and still in reeducation camps. A million South Vietnamese cadres were summoned in the days after 30 April by the communist authorities and several dozen thousand were interned for an undetermined period.

The American press gives a figure of from 7,000 to 15,000 prisoners and Amnesty International gives 100,000 as the population of what refugees calls a

"Vietnamese gulag." Some exile organizations have given figures as high as 500,000 prisoners, but such figures combine the persons imprisoned in 1975, those who have since been jailed for political reasons and common law prisoners, often mixed together in the prisons and camps of Vietnam.

11,464

CSO: 4219/52

POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

LIFE IN HO CHI MINH CITY DESCRIBED

Paris LIBERATION in French 30 Apr 85 pp 18-19

[Text] Saigon still breathes under Ho Chi Minh City. Its inhabitants speak of poverty, corruption, control in all areas, but also of their thousand and one diversions: the stubborn search for books, the growing numbers of cafes, the gatherings of friends.

On the Americans

One Vietnamese questioned about the first reaction of the Saigonese to the Americans quickly replied laughing: "They think: 'GI's, come back!'" (Charles-Antoine de Nericiat, AFP, 1984)

Parties

Since 1983, people have started having parties again, especially those who have houses or large apartments. One has to pay to get in, 40 dong, for example. Local police are paid to keep their eyes closed. (B., 18, high school student)

Cafes

The worst enemy is boredom. There is nothing to do. People spend their spare time in little groups in the cafes, springing up like mushrooms on the sidewalks. They talk about everything and nothing in particular, listen to music. One can have something to drink for 50 centimes and stay as long as one likes, dreaming of something else while drinking fake coffee. (A., 18, high school student)

Visiting Permits

Every family has a kind of identity card and a visiting card. In every group of five or ten families, there is one person in charge of recording the comings and goings in the house. If someone comes to spend the night, it has to be reported and he is registered by the group's officer. From time to time, police make searches in the middle of the night. They see whether there is anyone not registered. This has happened twice since 1975, but our district is relatively free of surveillance compared with others. (T., 60, management)

Games of Chance

The lottery is the most prosperous industry in the country. There are all kinds of lotteries. Rue Tong Nhat is sometimes blocked at 1600 hours because that is when the winners are announced. Tickets cost from 2 to 5 dong, but large sums are won. (N., 45, teacher)

Movies

Movies are not too expensive, but people go less and less because the films are so bad. They are usually Soviet or Czech B movies. Furthermore, in all the theaters, the seats are slashed. Young people slit the cushions and take out the screws and bolts to sell them on the black market. (T., 60, management)

Packages

What mainly helps us to survive are the packages sent by my refugee sons who have been in France since the end of 1979, four a year since 1983. A package of medicine costing 330 francs will support us for 4 to 5 months. At the door of the post office, one sells it for about 10,000 dong. French medicines are the most sought-after. They are sold to pharmacists and doctors, even those working in the state hospitals, who in turn sell them to their patients. Over 200,000 families are now living off of such packages. A package of La Vache Qui Rit [cheese] costs 120 dong, 2 months wages of a teacher. (T., 60, management)

Doctor

There is an incredible waste of brainpower. Ho Chi Minh City now has less than a quarter of the medical personnel it had in 1975. The revolutionaries tried to impose themselves instead of convincing the people. They tried to use strong-arm tactics with the Saigon intellectuals. It will take at least two generations for the damage to be repaired. (Mrs D., doctor, 60)

Dollars

At the official rate, \$1 is worth 12 dong, but in the backrooms of the shops, \$1 will bring 250 dong.

Dong

The sole obsession is food. A kilo of pork costs over 200 dong; a kilo of chicken 180. A package of American cigarettes costs 250 dong. Naturally, one can get along with fakes made of herbs and costing 20 dong. But what can you do when a teacher makes 60 dong a month and an egg costs 10 dong? (N., 45, teacher)

Schools

Even at school, we have self-criticism sessions. Everyone must confess to the others what he has done wrong: "I did not do my homework; I stole X's pen...." Then the others have to criticize him and the guilty party promises to mend

his ways. When the war broke out against Cambodia, the teachers made us write letters and then we went to visit the wounded in the hospitals. Every student was also supposed to carve at least one bamboo pike during the manual arts period. Those pointed sticks were to be used to set traps for the Cambodians. (A., 18, high school student)

English

I am now giving private classes in the homes of students. I take only two or three students so as not to attract attention from the police. Otherwise you have to pay them off. The cost of the classes varies from 50 to 100 dong an hour. All or nearly all of my students are young people who want to leave the country, legally or illegally, in the months ahead. We use old textbooks from the "English for Today" series. They call it "English for To Go." (N., 45, teacher)

Foreigners

Inviting a stranger to your house is impossible unless one is a high official, and even then.... Even inviting a Soviet to your house is forbidden. Every family has been given a kind of Ten Commandments of the "Modern" Way of Life: One is supposed to pay attention to hygiene, but also not to listen to foreign radio stations. Actually, no one pays any attention, beginning with local district officials, who listen to the BBC every morning. (T., 60, management)

Hunger

The daily ration eaten in Vietnam is the lowest we have ever found, even lower than that of Madagascar or Uganda. It is 1,850 calories a day, when the minimum is estimated at 2,300 calories. (FAO report, November 1984)

Money

There is a kind of high life. It is always difficult to find a place in a restaurant, even if it is a greasy spoon. The people look as if they are in a hurry to spend everything they make. The reason is that if one keeps one's money, one risks losing it overnight. Everyone fears a new change in currency like the one already made by the government. In such operations, one has the right to exchange but a small sum. Furthermore, you have to prove the "legal" origin of the rest, which is black humor. All the money people have, they make it on the black market or, if one is an official, by "selling signatures." You may as well spend it right away. (V., former officer)

Flea Market

It is a veritable flea market, with hot goods, used dishes, piles of television sets, radios and walkmen, air conditions, ballpoint pens and soap, walls of bottled alcohol. Music blares from one stand to the next. The pedicabs dart through the commotion and raggedy children sell pre-1975 cassettes and single cigarettes. Piles of bills change hands while the blind, lepers and disabled silently wait for alms as the little policemen in cream-colored uniforms and dress caps with military braid pass by.

Cops

You can often see peaceful houses with red and yellow signs proclaiming, for example, that "Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom." These homes belong to people who have fled the country. This is where the *cong an khu vuc*, the district police, meet every night to report all they saw during the day. There is one policeman for every five families. He sticks to you like your shadow. In these houses, several rooms serve as temporary cells. What is really nice for us is that one can always bargain with the *cong an*. (V., former officer)

Heroine

In 1980, Vietnamese television broadcast a series telling the story of a teenager who denounced his own parents to the authorities because they had hidden a little gold under the floor of the house. The parents were sent to a reeducation camp. Becoming a revolutionary, she was accepted into the university and she was sure that reeducation would lead her parents back to the straight and narrow path. (David Jenkins, FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW)

Hospitals

I had a friend who was a writer. He was injured by a truck: a skull fracture. We took him to Cho Ray Hospital, the most modern one in the city, built by the Japanese 20 years ago. He had to be operated on. The doctor told us he had neither a razor nor bandages nor gauze. We had to go out to the sidewalk in front of the hospital where you can buy anything. The doctors write their prescriptions and the patients buy the medicine on the sidewalk on the black market as they leave the doctor's office. (N., 45, teacher)

Humor

At our school, they tell the following story. All Saigonese know it. It happened in a plane carrying Le Duan, Pham Van Dong and Truong Chinh. The first took a 100-dong note out of his pocket and threw it out the window saying, "At least I can make one person happy." The second also took out 100 dong, but in 50 2-dong notes, and said, "Well, I can make 50 people happy." The third did even better: He threw 100 dong out the window in 1-dong notes to make 100 people happy. The pilot then crashed the airplane into the mountain-side and made 50 million people happy. (A., 18, high school teacher)

Lack of Security

The most striking thing is the general economic decline. Our district has over the years gotten dirtier and dirtier and the houses are falling into ruins. They were looted by their successive tenants. Every inhabitant takes what he can when he leaves: first the fans, then the lamps, then the door handles. Robberies are more and more frequent. You can't do anything about it. There are no more chains. In the area, there are more and more thefts and more and more robberies with murders. No one dares go out at night. The lack of security is much worse than it was before 1975. (T., 60, management)

Books

My passtime is to go through piles of old papers. I find treasures: quite recent magazines and even newspapers such as PARIS MATCH, L'EXPRESS or LE MONDE, which were brought and left by foreigners, the Air France flights or the consulate. Then I circulate these treasures. An old copy of LE MONDE can be rented for 10 dong. An issue of ESPRIT, for example, brings 30 dong, half a teacher's salary. Since 1983, the sale of all novels in foreign languages is forbidden, even in Russian. Twice in 1976-1977 and again in 1983, they launched a kind of cultural revolution. I saw mountains of books burned in public, including modern technical works. Fortunately, theory is far from practice. The guys responsible for this are also corrupt. Since 1975, I have always been able to buy foreign books. It all comes down to knowing where to go. (N., 45, teacher)

Law

Vietnam has become like one big prison. One has the feeling of being totally at the mercy of the government's whims. Today, being Catholic is not a crime, but it may be in the future if they so decide. There is no law or stability. One lives in the perpetual fear of a new political shift of the regime. When one is imprisoned, it is without a trial. One never knows when one will get out. (N., 45, teacher)

Officially

We do encounter objective difficulties; that is a fact. We have made major progress in some fields, but we still come up against many problems. Our prime concern is improving the daily life of the population. To do so, we have to develop our exports, take measures to encourage small industry and handicrafts. Ho Chi Minh City is a major economic center of international relations and tourism. It is a big industrial center, an important bridgehead for maritime, air and road transport. We have better conditions here, objectively speaking, than in the rest of Vietnam. (Vu Hac Bong, director of foreign relations of the municipality)

9 Years After, Saigon Beats Hanoi

On 30 April 1984, Ho Chi Minh City will celebrate its "liberation" with the greatest discretion: a few propaganda posters with the inevitable workers, soldiers and peasants in the Stalinist style. A few demonstrations have been announced, then canceled at the last minute. The only event: the soccer game between the city's team and that of the capital, Hanoi. The hotel waiters and guards crowded in front of the old black and white TV. Suddenly, a clamor filled the hall of the old colonial hotel: Saigon had just beaten Hanoi. That very evening, the young people of Saigon celebrated the 30 April anniversary in their own way. By the hundreds, the noisy motorcycles and scooters held a jubilant "rodeo" right downtown, thumbing their noses at the regime, under the vigilant eye of police who had received orders to let them have their day.

Opium

The opium dens have also reappeared. The opium comes from the northern area of the country, from the Lai Chau region, or Laos. It is brought to Saigon by cadres and soldiers whose families live there and who have permission to come see them. The dens are set up in private homes, whose owners pay off the local police. It is not very expensive, less than American cigarettes. A wad of opium costs only 5 dong. The people who go to these dens are mainly merchants, hoods and the sons of high officials who have found cushy jobs in Ho Chi Minh City. (D., 50, writer)

Workers

The people work very little. Sometimes over half the time at work is spent in interminable meetings. Work theoretically stops at 1600 hours, but actually a half hour earlier. Everyone is in a hurry to go earn money. The director of the factory, for example, hurries to get home and clean and feed his pigs. One of the privileges of the cadres is that they can obtain special feed for their pigs. We are content to raise chickens or to find other schemes. (O., 35, worker)

Teachers

In the classroom, one has to be very cautious. There are two or three informers in every class. The school officials generally have no diploma; they come from the army. Three out of four have no other job than political control. I teach 18 hours a week, plus political classes, at least one a week. Theoretically, we have 3 months of vacation, but for 2 months, we have to go twice a week to the school to work on maintenance and repair, hold political meetings and receive our rations. I am entitled to 13 kilos of rice a month at 50 centimes a kilo, 500 grams of pork, half a kilo of sugar, matches and sometimes a can of condensed milk. Distribution is irregular and announced by posters. One therefore always has to be on the lookout in order not to miss one.

My salary is 60 dong, actually 250, with the different bonuses and allowances. One needs 2,000 to 3,000 dong for a couple. I do sewing and knitting for street merchants on Rue Tu Do, foreign Vietnamese or cadres. I often work until midnight. Some of my colleagues sell ice cream and candy right at the school gates before going to teach. Others watch the students' scooters for 2 or 3 dong an hour. The essential thing, as we say, is "to have one foot in and one out," an official job to be covered and receive the rations and a moonlighting job to be able to live. Since 1975, at least 10 percent of the teachers at my school have fled. They call us the "soul engineers." (Mrs N., 35, teacher)

Prostitutes

Under the old regime, Rue Duy Tan was famous for its many prostitutes, but it is even worse now. Starting at 1700 hours and as late as 2400 hours, the girls invade the sidewalks, not only on Duy Tan, but on old Rue Chasseloup-Laubat, Hung Vuong and other areas. You would think there was a demonstration,

there are so many people. They are all prostitutes who have started in the business since 1975 because following the fall of Saigon, all prostitutes known to be such were sent to "rehabilitation camps for the human person." Prostitutes today are office workers or servants or unemployed girls during the day. Their customers are officials or rich merchants. They cost from 50 to 100 dong. They generally work at home. The police leave them alone, perhaps being paid off. (D., 50, writer)

Russians

You see few Russians, except on television. When Brezhnev died, they stopped everything and observed a few minutes of silence. All students had to wear black bands and a picture of Brezhnev was put in the classrooms for a week or two. (D., 18, high school student)

Schizo

Everyone has become somewhat schizophrenic. One has to lie to live. There are more and more cases of depression and suicides in the city. Even the authorities are worried. They have just set up a commission to study the problem. One of my sociologist friends is a member of the commission. In my opinion, it results from the constant split personality one has to assume. (N., 45, teacher)

Sports

Sports have assumed a role they did not previously have. One always sees thousands of scooters parked at the Sports Club behind the cathedral. They belong to young people who engage in sports or cultural activities. There are many sports festivals and television devotes a large part of its programs to such programs. Since 1979, they have regularly rebroadcast major events via Moscow. For example, it was possible to watch the entire World Cup. These are certainly the most popular events now in Vietnam. (N., 45, teacher)

Southerners

I work in a small paper mill belonging to the municipality. I receive the basic wage of 500 dong, an official car and Saturdays and Sundays off. The cadres want to do well, to do better than the North and earn money. The atmosphere is very special. There is no police control. Technical and financial responsibilities are given to the most competent people, with no political criteria. We systematically underestimate planning quotas, which enables us to take a fair amount of private orders and distribute bonuses to the workers and double their wages every month. Here, a worker makes ten times more than a teacher. It is like that in many municipal enterprises. That is the South, after all. (T., 60, management)

Trafficking

According to NHAN DAN, the daily newspaper of the Vietnamese Communist Party, the seizures of goods and gold carried out in Ho Chi Minh City amounted to

hundreds of thousands of dollars in November. The NHAN DAN also reported the discovery by police of "thousands of cases" of the manufacture and sale of phony products, particularly alcohol, cigarettes and drugs. These seizures continue even though authorities have just emphasized their determination to move rapidly toward a "socialist transformation" of economic agents, meaning near elimination of the private sector. The press is stepping up its attacks on the "merchant bourgeoisie," blamed for the failures that have occurred in the southern metropolis in the area of the economy and commerce. (AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, December 1984)

Ending Up in the Streets

Rue Ham Nghi, 30 April 1984. An old colonial villa with ochre walls and white frame windows. There is barbed wire on the walls and a red sign showing that it is a police station. On the cracked, dirty sidewalks, dozens lie on filthy, raggedy mats before a dented, blackened teapot and a bundle of tattered belongings. They have lived there for months in the thousands, illegally returning from the "new economic zones" where the authorities sent them to try to relieve the congestion in the city between 1975 and 1978. They have no residence permit, no papers, no work, and their houses have been seized. They are living on the sidewalks between the big red and white American cars rented for marriages and the police station walls. Sometimes they do not get up in the morning.

11,464

CSO: 4219/52

END